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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS



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9 FEBRUARY 1987

USSR REPORT
POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

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ALEKSANDROV, MARCHUK SPEAK AT ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MEETING

Aleksandrov Speech

Moscow VESTNIK AKADEMII NAUK SSR in Russian No 11, Nov 86 (signed to press 5 Nov 86) pp 6-8

[Introductory Remarks by President of USSR Academy of Sciences Academician A. P. Aleksandrov]

[Text] Comrades! I have worked for a good number of years now at the high post of president of the USSR Academy of Sciences to which you have elected me, but I can no longer handle all of the obligations that are incumbent upon this office.

You know that my direct field of specialization, nuclear engineering, is currently undergoing a very acute period in connection with the major accident at the Chernobyl power plant. To a significant degree this area is related to my activity and I bear a great responsibility for that field of specialization. I therefore had to ask that the CPSU Central Committee relieve me of my duties as President of the Academy of Sciences so that I may fully devote my remaining years to my own direct field of interest -- the development of nuclear power in our country. The Central Committee has treated my request with great attention and understanding.

I cannot particularly reproach myself for the fact that something in the Academy of Sciences did not exactly evolve as it should have in these last ten years. During this time there has been a significance increase in the Academy's influence on the development of many sectors of our industry and on the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. We succeeded in correcting many shortcomings in the structure of the Academy as well as in the areas that we have been developing. Although I, of course, cannot claim personal credit for those actions. Rather they have resulted from the constantly growing attention given to the Academy of Sciences on the part of the CPSU Central Committee and government, and to the intense work of all the members of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences, all the academy institutes, and in any case, the overwhelming majority of them. For example, due to the very energetic activity of Ye. P. Velikhov, to a significant degree we succeeded in correcting the situation we had with regard to computer technology and information retrieval. Thanks to the studies of our mathematicians, and particularly the considerable role

played here by A. N. Tikhonov, we have developed highly advanced computer methods that fully correspond to the world class level. In recent years computer technology and its elemental base have been developing, although there is still much to be done here. We are making headway in our general approaches to computer design that includes high-performance, middle category, and small computers. Note here should be taken of the work being done at the Siberian Branch under the supervision of G. I. Marchuk in concert with the industrial ministries. Yu. A. Ovchinnikov has made a very large contribution to the development of biological sciences and biotechnology in our country. Many studies at the most contemporary level have been conducted in biotechnology, biochemistry, and genetic engineering. Here too, however, there are many unfinished items that we must clear up.

As a whole, we have now compensated for the huge loss that was caused in our own time to our biology and cybernetics, and in many areas of science we have gone out to the forefront. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the technical areas. In order to bring them to the required level, the technological base of the Academy of Sciences must be strengthened.

Many new areas in the field of communications have gone ahead thanks to the works of V. A. Kotelnikov and the institute he heads. Among those areas, primary mention should be made of a newest area -- the development of optical-fiber devices for communications and for many areas of instrument building and engineering. We have some good starts and advanced technological processes here too, but we are not yet at the mass production stage. We have yet to provide industry with contemporary equipment and create a contemporary technology. This is our most immediate task.

It is very important that the Academy has restored its previous role in studies on mechanics, machine-building, and its scientific potential in this area which at one time or other was lost to a significant degree. We have succeeded in returning an institute that had previously been transferred to industry, and we have succeeded in organizing a department under the supervision of K. V. Frolov who is now vigorously developing a relatively new area for the Academy, i.e., improvement in the reliability and technical qualities of our machinery.

We have made considerable advances in the new technology of powder metallurgy. And here I must note our joint operations with the ministries of the ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy industries and with the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. B. E. Paton is successfully working in this area, and large and important works have been completed by V. I. Trefilov. However, here too, we have not reached the level that we should have attained.

We have undertaken scientific research on a broad scale, and in many cases we have developed technological processes and essential materials that satisfy world class standards. However, all of this relates to laboratory projects, experimental processes, but not commercial production. That segment has not been brought to a conclusion.

Until recently our joint projects were undertaken on the basis of single orders, e.g., a particular ministry interested in the development of projects in a particular area would examine the problem with us, and then would allocate a certain financial and technical potential, and we would assign our collective. For the most part we were able to set up a good cooperative effort, and certain projects would move ahead rather energetically. I must mention here, in particular, the work of our many, many chemical institutes.

But sometimes it was necessary to organize undertakings on a broader basis, one that would include the participation of several departments. In that case, we frequently failed to incorporate engineering ideas into industry. It was difficult to get all of the participants sufficiently interested.

We have recently taken an important step toward creating new forms of transferring projects from the scientific and technical sphere to industry. The organization of inter-sector scientific-technical complexes was suggested. It was proposed that such complexes would improve the chances of incorporating projects, and would accelerate the development of research itself, and particularly the commercial applications of research results. Now the Central Committee of the party and the government have decided to ask the Academy of Sciences to organize a number of such complexes and participate in the operations of some others in which industry is supposed to play a leading role. We were to organize such complexes in almost all areas.

The very organization of inter-sector complexes was a complex problem. At first it was proposed that a significant number of industrial enterprises should switch over to the Academy's system. I remember how we discussed this situation with G. I. Marchuk. It was clear to us that if the problem were to be resolved in this manner, there would be serious discrepancies between the academy and industrial organizations, and that situation would lead to naught. We then suggested the form that is currently being evolved that will facilitate an acceleration of scientific and technical progress in our country. However, this is not a simple process, and we need considerable assistance from the CPSU Central Committee, the government, and, of course, from the industrial ministries until such time as all of us find a common language and a genuine form of cooperation. In this regard I am at fault. It so happened that the main work on organizing the inter-sector complexes coincided with the difficult situation in nuclear energy, so I was not able to give that matter the attention it deserved.

That situation would be handled better by a president of the Academy of Sciences who is closely related to industry and who has sufficient experience in the industrial administrative sphere. And now, when we must resolve the principal task assigned to us by the Central Committee -- the acceleration of scientific and technical progress -- I can see no one more suitable for the high post as President of the USSR Academy of Sciences than Guriy Ivanovich Marchuk.

I shall say a few words about my rather long acquaintance with Guriy Ivanovich. That association began at the time nuclear technology was developing. That was the same time as computer technology was also developing in our country. And the first steps of that development were quite successful. Methods for designing nuclear reactors were rather quickly devised in Obninsk where Guriy Ivanovich was working at that time. The design methods and their potential were frequently underestimated at that time, since it was a completely new undertaking. I remember how I came to Guriy Ivanovich in Obninsk, and he showed me multi-group designs on reactor physics. After that we sent our own specialists there, and thanks to the initiative and research of Guriy Ivanovich, an important impetus was given to these projects.

Subsequently, Guriy Ivanovich, together with M. A. Lavrentyev, took upon themselves from the very beginning the enormous task of organizing the Siberian Branch, and later, after the death of Mikhail Alekseyevich, Guriy Ivanovich assumed the burden of the directorship himself.

In those years the Siberian Branch brought forward a number of technological processes which later began to be widely used in our country. It was just then that Guriy Ivanovich acquired quite invaluable experience that no one else had yet gained in the national academy, i.e., the large-scale participation of the science sector in the development of industry.

I believe that we must utilize this experience of Guriy Ivanovich by electing him to the high post of President of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

In conclusion, permit me to mention the invaluable assistance the associates of the Academy Presidium have given to me in my work here. I must particularly note the enormous support of my assistant Natalya Leonidovna Timofeyevna who had to work no less than 12 hours every day. In general, it seems to me that we in the Presidium established a very good and amiable work style.

I should like to thank also the many institute directors who always were so responsive to my requests and who so quickly started to work on the problems that required urgent solutions.

Marchuk Speech

Moscow VESTNIK AKADEMII NAUK SSSR in Russian No 11, Nov 86 (signed to press 5 Nov 86) pp 20-21

[Text] First of all I want to express my deep gratitude to the General Meeting for the high degree of confidence it has placed in me by electing me President of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

This post, as A. P. Aleksandrov correctly noted here, carries a heavy responsibility. I will say quite frankly. The more I heard kind words spoken about me, the stronger I felt the responsibility that now rests upon my shoulders. And, of course, a president of the Academy of Sciences can successfully carry out his functions and obligations to the Academy of Sciences, the Party, and the country only if he works in close cooperation with the co-comrades closest to him -- the vice-presidents, the chief academic secretary, the members of the Presidium, the division bureaus, the directors of Academy of Sciences institutions, and with the entire collective as a whole. Therefore, the good wishes that were extended here applies to all of us.

I wish to thank the Politburo of the CP Central Committee for the great trust placed in me and for recommending me to the General Meeting of the USSR Academy of Sciences for the post of president. I was profoundly moved by the speech of CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, CPSU Central Committee Secretary Ye. K. Ligachev who elucidated the problems that must be resolved by the Academy and who supported my candidacy. I believe that all of the problems that have been placed before the Academy of Sciences will serve as the leitmotif of what we must do. That has been concisely defined by the 27th Party Congress.

I believe that what is most important is to enlarge the role of fundamental research at the Academy of Sciences. Until now, the Academy of Sciences, guided by the logic of developing fundamental research, and bearing the responsibility for carrying it out, has devoted all its efforts and attention to just this area of science. By the very progress of science the Academy has assured scientific priority in all spheres of social and technological progress, while simultaneously engaged to a significant degree with applied problems.

Now, after the 27th Party Congress has proclaimed a transition to an intensive economy and reality has now become new methods of management based on the principles of complete cost accounting and self-reimbursement, industrial science has a markedly greater responsibility for the results obtained from the incorporation of fundamental ideas and new technological processes. It is just at this time that the Academy of Sciences must clearly define how we are to proceed further.

In the political report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th CPSU

Congress M. S. Gorbachev emphasized the leading role that the Academy of Sciences should take in the development of fundamental research. Soundly formulated fundamental studies will initiate new discoveries and the creation of new technological processes and new materials, i.e., all of the components that in the last analysis determine scientific-technical progress and its realization in all sectors of the national economy.

The science of economics, as mentioned here by Ye. K. Ligachev, will begin to acquire increasing importance in this building process. The development of economics studies is particularly important now because we need the levers and mechanisms essential to making the transition to an intensive economy. I believe that the role of Academy economists in the creation of such levers and mechanisms will continue to grow, and we must facilitate that course in every possible way.

The human factor is currently acquiring enormous importance. The human being must be at developmental focus of science, engineering, technology, social, political, and ideological problems. In that connection, I believe that the Academy of Sciences must devote a great deal of attention to the social sciences. Without new achievements in those sciences our society cannot now continue to develop. Profound theories that harmoniously complement each other must offer us guides for economic and social policy and serve as a reliable foundation for that policy.

I should note that the Academy of Sciences has many difficult and unresolved organizational problems. This was also mentioned by comrade Ligachev in his speech. Factors related to these problems include a greater operational flexibility of our scientific-research institutes, a better supply of equipment, computer technology, and reagents for institutes that conduct research in the natural sciences. And I particularly want to emphasize the need to raise the role played by the divisions of the USSR Academy of Sciences. In fact they will be entrusted with the main responsibility for the development of scientific research in their own areas, and they will be given sufficient independence and resources.

There are a rather large number of problems related to new organizational forms, such as inter-sector scientific-technical complexes, temporary scientific-production collectives and laboratories which, when included into fundamental research projects at the early stages, will help the various sectors of the national economy to realize and utilize those innovations that emerge continuously. In short, the problems are many.

I also want to emphasize that the Academy of Sciences has an outstanding reputation in the world, but the spirit of the times is such that we must work even harder and more intensively.

In conclusion, esteemed comrades, friends, and colleagues, I heartily thank you for the high degree of trust you have placed in me, and I hope that you will subsequently give your support to me and the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences as the principal leading body of the Academy, and that we shall go forward together along the path outlined by the decisions of the 27th Party Congress.

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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

PRESIDENTS' COMMUNIQUE FROM JULY CONFERENCE OF SCIENCE ACADEMY

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 7-10

[Text] The Third Conference of Presidents of the Academies of Sciences of Socialist Countries was held in Berlin on 1-2 July 1986 by invitation of the GDR Academy of Sciences.

Conference participants included representatives from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the NTsNI i KON [not further identified] of Vietnam, the GDR Academy of Sciences, the North Korean Academy of Sciences, the Cuban Academy of Sciences, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Academy and ASiPN [not further identified] of Romania, the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. Representatives from CEMA and from the Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan also took part in the conference.

The leaders of delegations from academies of sciences represented at the conference were received by general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, GDR Council of State Chairman E. Honecker. A meeting was also held with First Deputy Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers W. Krolkowski, a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

Deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, minister for science and technology, Doctor H. Weiz spoke to the conference participants.

Problems concerned with peace and disarmament, the problems of maintaining close contact between science and production and scientific problems pertaining to development of information science and computer technology--the decisive factor of acceleration of scientific-technical progress--were discussed at the conference.

The conference participants stated that maintaining and ensuring peace is the most important problem of modern times.

The presidents of the academies of sciences declared that, without exception, all academies and all scientists recognize their special responsibility for solving the problems of peace and disarmament.

The conference participants expressed serious concern over the uncertainties of the international situation. It was their unanimous opinion that aggressive militaristic forces were responsible for this situation. Continually spurring on the arms race, they have attained a critical limit beyond which the situation threatens to go completely out of control. The resulting greater threat of nuclear war can be eliminated only by taking effective steps to limit arms and to disarm, by preventing militarization of space and eliminating nuclear weapons, and by consistently implementing the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference.

The broad disarmament program proposed by the USSR, which proclaimed complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century as its end goal, received unanimous approval. It opens up prospects for freeing the world from the means of mass annihilation and from conventional arms of no lesser destructive power by the end of this century, it encourages peaceful cooperation among states rather than confrontation, and it offers science the possibility of serving the good of the people exclusively. This program is a reflection of a new way of political thinking objectively required in the nuclear age, and of vigorous and responsible actions by governments. The participants were also unanimous in the belief that while the disarmament program is a realistic program, its implementation requires significant effort. They described the scientific work being done in their countries to support the peace initiatives of the USSR, other socialist countries and all peace-loving forces.

In the opinion of the presidents of the academies of sciences represented at the conference, attainment of higher effectiveness in scientific research requires more active, better-coordinated international cooperation, and the conduct of conferences on special philosophical, historical, economic, sociological and political problems, and on the problems of peace and disarmament.

In this connection the presidents of the academies of sciences participating in the conference voiced their approval of a decision of the Seventh Conference of Vice Presidents for Social Sciences of Socialist Academies of Sciences to form a commission for the problem "Problems of Peace and Disarmament" on the basis of multilateral cooperation. The conference participants emphasized their preparedness to enter into dialogue with all peace-loving scientific forces and currents in nonsocialist countries, and for close cooperation on these issues with the academies of sciences of socialist countries. They unanimously adopted the Appeal to Scientists of the World.

Keeping in mind the latest decisions of the communist and workers' parties of their countries, the conference participants proceeded with the understanding that maintaining ties between science and production is fundamental to accelerating scientific-technical progress. This is why concentration of the activities of the academies of sciences upon the principal directions in the development of industry and agriculture was one of the main issues examined at the conference.

The presidents of academies of sciences represented at the conference declared their resolve to use the available scientific-technical potential to assist in attaining scientific and scientific-technical results--chiefly in the principal directions, such as introduction of electronics into the national economy, full automation, nuclear power engineering, new materials and new procedures for manufacturing and utilizing them, and biotechnology, which has decisive significance to political, economic and social progress of the socialist states. The presidents of the academies of sciences of CEMA countries expressed their resolve to intensify scientific cooperation among academies of sciences in compliance with the Integrated Program of Scientific-Technical Progress of CEMA Countries to the Year 2000. Attention will also be devoted to cooperation among the academies in expanding the raw material and power reserves of socialist countries.

Despite the fact that different socialist countries are using different methods to maintain close ties between science and production, the collective experience attests to the effectiveness of establishing partnerships in science and production on an economic basis and on the basis of legal contracts. Development and mastery of key technologies which could then be practically utilized must be the result of this relationship.

The conference participants emphasized the need for directing joint efforts at predicting the promising directions of scientific development and, on this basis, raising fundamental research to a higher qualitative and quantitative level. This task can be completed effectively by the academies of sciences in close cooperation with institutions in the higher education system.

The presidents of the academies of sciences participating in the conference emphasized their intent to develop a long-range program of cooperation in the natural sciences, one which would create the necessary scientific foundation for socioeconomic progress in the period after the year 2000 as well.

The conference participants agreed to write up a document reflecting concentration of joint efforts of the academies of sciences on the main research directions of mutual interest corresponding to the requirements for national development of their countries, on utilization of research results, on development of the most effective methods and organizational forms of cooperation, and on further utilization of existing forms.

The presidents of the academies of sciences of socialist countries unanimously asserted that information science and computer technology are areas of science having primary strategic significance for the development of socialist society, and contribution to this research by academies of sciences participating in the conference--especially to creation of new generations of computer systems and to full automation--is one of the main objectives of their cooperation. A tangible contribution must be made to planned development of all areas of economic and social life with the assistance of accelerated development of microelectronics, and of information and communication technology based on it. Information and intellectual processes must be made more efficient by effecting a transition from processing data and

facts to processing knowledge. These processes will lead to a significant growth of labor productivity, and thus promote the further economic and social development of all socialist states.

The forms of concrete division of labor already adopted in information science and computer technology will be improved further. The conception of "new generations of computer systems," developed and adopted by the academies of sciences of the socialist countries, is the basis for this. It is mainly a program for achieving practical utilization of research results, especially from 10 coordinated scientific integrated projects, in the most direct manner. This will require development and improvement of cooperation with industry. Representatives of socialist industry need to be included in the activities of the 16 international laboratory centers of the academies of sciences pertaining to information science and computer technology. Their participation should begin early, when initial objectives are being determined.

CEMA academies of sciences participating in the conference made it their objective to coordinate their actions with the "Computer Technology" multilateral intergovernmental commission in order to organize research, planning and design in information science and computer technology more effectively on the basis of division of labor.

Participants of the Third Conference of Presidents of the Academies of Sciences of Socialist Countries acquainted themselves with the activities of integrated plants such as Karl Zeiss - Jena, Robotron and Umformtechnik, with ways of coordinating the scientific research potentials of the academies of sciences, and with the system of higher education and the integrated industrial works of the GDR. They were given a possibility for studying the practical experience of solving the stated problems locally.

The participants of the conference, which was held in a warm, friendly and creative atmosphere, vowed that they would do everything they could to promote further development of international socialist cooperation of the academies of socialist countries in scientific research in the spirit of the decisions adopted by recent congresses of communist and workers' parties with the goal of raising the effectiveness of scientific research.

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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PROPOSES FAR EAST DEPARTMENT, NOTES PROBLEMS

PM101210 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

[Our special correspondents I. Kots, V. Mamontov report: "Thoughts After the Visiting Session of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium: Point of Support"]

[Excerpt] Vladivostok--Life requires that the Far East be transformed into a balanced, developed, industrial and agrarian region of the country, and in the near future. It is above all science--the pilot of acceleration--which should reduce the time taken to resolve problems. But it must be admitted that in recent years the role of forward-looking people has not been a great success for the Far East scientists. First and foremost because science has suffered from "resource" one-sidedness. Suffice it to say that the subject matter of 80 percent of the Far East center's research has been devoted to the study of the land. There are marked successes in this direction. But at the same time the "gaps" include such science-intensive spheres of production as, for instance, radioelectronics, machine building, and a whole series of others. The main avenues of scientific progress, the priority sectors, have often been deprived of the support of academic and sector institutes.

Striking disproportions occur! Despite the fact that the Far East makes the main contribution to the unionwide fish catch, it has only...one-tenth of the sector's scientific potential. This weakness in the "rear services," in conjunction with ill-considered decisions by economic managers, has led to many strategic errors. Here are the concrete results: Fish sales outlets and storehouses are packed with unpopular goods, and sometimes we do not even know how to approach the richest resources of the world's oceans. The potential of marine fish farming, waste-free processing of marine products, and their reproduction is studied only timidly and on a small scale. There is a clear shortage of innovative ideas in this sphere. And the reproduction of old, "well worn" technological and production solutions only consumes state resources. Such resources are used far more effectively by our Pacific neighbors, especially Japan, where money is invested boldly in fundamental research.

The fruitful idea of radically restructuring Far East science placed on the agenda the question of setting up a department of the academy in the east. Its priorities, organizational functions, and coordinating role were discussed in detail at the session in Vladivostok. The new institution will be given great autonomy in the planning of research and in determining future directions. The future department, Academician G. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and other speakers noted, is called upon to organize the transition of science onto an intensive footing, to ensure preferential development of fundamental research, and to take the most responsible place on the captain's bridge of scientific and technical progress.

Are the Far East scientists ready for this? Today subunits of the Far Eastern Scientific Center are working on 21 all-union scientific and technical programs. The center's institutes are the key institutes for a whole series of comprehensive research fields. There are sectors of knowledge where their prestige is extremely high: first and foremost geology, vulcanology, oceanology.... But today it is not individual collectives, but the center as a whole which must take leading positions in the world. This was precisely what Academician G. Mesyats, chairman of the Urals Scientific Center presidium, had in mind when he said from the platform:

"There is no such thing as Siberian, Urals, Georgian, or Far Eastern science--there is Soviet science!"

But we must impart this observations: The course of the discussion of topical matters was at times reminiscent of a seesaw. The restructuring of thinking, the need to see the future clearly were spoken of by representatives of the "upper story." But as soon as their colleagues from the localities appeared on the platform, the "seesaw" swung down to the ground? toward missing reagents, inadequate staffs, crowded laboratories.... Let us not be too quick to reproach people for excessive practicality. Today you cannot demand a proper return from scientists unless you devote priority attention to creating a modern research base and providing social and domestic facilities for scientific cadres.

In the Far East these questions have become extremely acute. There is virtually no experimental base for the institutes. Special design bureaus have only just begun to be set up. Not a single square meter of laboratory premises has been commissioned in Khabarovsk or on Sakhalin since 1977. All this was spoken of bitterly by Ye. Zolotov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, director of the Far Eastern Scientific Center's computer center. Many science facilities have won the lamentable reputation of long-drawn-out construction projects--for instance, the new blocks for the institutes of economic research and marine biology.

Nor is the housing problem being resolved over the years. After being squeezed into a crowded hostel, talented young scientists leave the region. Let us cite a few eloquent figures. In Khabarovsk Kray the quantity of housing commissioned during the 5-year plan period was only one-fourth of the plan.

In Magadan, during the same period, research workers were assigned 300 square meters of housing (that is approximately 10 2-room apartments), while the waiting line consists of 177 people. The people on Sakhalin did not receive a single apartment. Much could also be said about the other troubles of the Far East people--the shortage of modern equipment, the small size of the science fleet, the lack of special literature....

These urgent matters were not ignored at the session. Many have been examined by the Academy of Sciences leadership together with representatives of the RSFSR Gosplan, interested ministries and departments, and the region's party and economic workers. There have already been real changes for the better: This year, for instance, the plan for the construction of housing for scientists was fulfilled in Maritime Kray. The radical improvement of the material and technical base for the future department is now being considered at the highest level. There will be new computers, modern laboratory equipment, and well equipped research ships. As Academician V. Kotelnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, noted, the reorganization of the Far Eastern center as a department presupposes financing out of the republican budget, not the all-union budget. This step will certainly do much to remedy the situation.

The fulfillment of society's truly large-scale requirements is often delayed by the inertia of the old, clichéd approaches. These approaches were clearly manifested during the preparation of the Comprehensive Program for Social and Economic Development of the Far East. The scientists had a splendid opportunity really to put into practice their most cherished aspirations, the fruits of many years' labor. And...they were overcautious. And in the most important respect: They incorporated in the program rates of development of the region's economy which do not suit anyone today, while the provision of social and domestic amenities was linked to the oft-condemned "leftover principle" of allocating capital investments.

To be fair, let us observe that the scientists' recommendations have often remained mere good intentions--insignificant papers which can be shelved when the most important economic matters are discussed. There are many examples of this in the power industry and the construction of the Far East mining industry. Not infrequently short-term, "arbitrary" solutions have prevailed. But today the situation is changing radically. The national economy, in the transition to an intensive footing, is becoming an active consumer of fresh, fruitful ideas and the main client for science.

For instance, lively interest is aroused among economic managers today by the technology proposed by the Far Eastern Scientific Center Chemistry Institute for comprehensive processing of raw materials, which has increased the level of metal extraction from ores. Yet only yesterday it appeared that the miners were not in the least worried about the discarded deposits of zinc, tin, copper, and rubidium in the tailings dumps at the Yaroslavskiy and Khrustal'nyy mining enrichment combines. And these are only the first fruits of the changes! This emerging trend must be supported and constantly

fed by the mighty power source of fundamental research--that is perhaps the main purpose of the restructuring of the academic sphere.

In this connection let us cite the characteristic opinion of D. Gagarov, first secretary of Maritime CPSU Kraykom:

"Today this is how things stand: Either we change the state of affairs in science in the near future and secure from it the necessary, full influence on all aspects of the region's social and economic development, or we will continue to become ever weaker and fall further behind, while having practically unlimited potential for a mighty leap forward."

The experience of setting up the academy's Siberian Department will doubtless be of use to the new scientific institution. From the first, the targets were set extremely high there, and world standards were taken as the starting point. The department collected under its flag the country's best scientific forces, who are clearly aware of their professional and civic duty. They have created the illustrious Siberian school whose authority in many respects determines economic and social policy over a vast region. Zealots are now needed in the Far East too.

The academy president's words that the "scientific invasion" of Vladivostok included scientists with their sights set on a Far East passport aroused animation in the auditorium. Indeed, strong scientific cadres must be attracted here and all the conditions must be created to retain them and ensure their fruitful work. But the strategic tasks facing the future department dictate that continuity and loyalty to the principle "Teacher, raise your pupil" are needed. In a word, strong roots are necessary, with a carefully thought out, ramified system for training talented recruits and retaining them. Academician Ye. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, devoted his speech to this in particular.

The visiting session defined key avenues in research and once again weighed up and considered both long-term and urgent tasks. It was stated clearly: The Far East people will not be left alone with their present troubles, they are promised substantial assistance and support.

But the prestigious forum of scientists did not and could not offer a ready-made formula. The structural renewal of the center and the expansion of autonomy not only offer new rights, but also redoubled responsibility for choosing the correct objective and ensuring weighty scientific results.

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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

KOLBIN'S WRITINGS AS ULYANOVSK OBKOM CHIEF

Dynamism, Initiative

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Apr 86 pp 1-2

[Article by G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Obkom: "April Dynamism"]

[Text] Approaching the clear days it is customary to sum up the path trodden and find one's position with an eye to the future. And today's thoughts should not, possibly, begin with an analysis of some depressing circumstances. But, it is well known, there's no getting away from facts, whatever they might be. And it turned out that on the eve of the Lenin jubilee and the first anniversary of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum we found ourselves forced to urgently convene a special session of the obkom bureau and conduct an impartial discussion thereat about discipline and order on the job.

This is what had happened. A worker of the "Kontaktor" Plant had engaged in a disgraceful drunken escapade. In the shop, at the height of the shift.... The news of it could not have failed to have disturbed the obkom. A mass inspection was organized at once: how were things at other enterprises? To our greatest regret, the lamentable instance was not an isolated one. In just 3 days of April 112 persons were turned up at their places of work in varying degrees of intoxication. But the main thing, which was the most distressing of all: officials of the supervisory authorities and the police, what is more, were revealed as boozers. One wonders, where were the foremen, team leaders and production bay, shop and shift chiefs? The communists, finally?

The discussion was keen and involved. And the decision was a strict one. The obkom bureau seemed impossible the continued use as director of the "Kontaktor" Plant of B.A. Uralets, and as party committee secretary, V.A. Konyukhov....

Later, as we bureau members summed up the past session, we reached highly significant conclusions. Such a candid, exacting exchange of opinions could hardly have taken place even just a year or so ago. We recalled that initially many leaders themselves had to be weaned away from banquets.

Then, when the customary feasts had been done away with, proceedings came to be instituted against communists who organized group drinking bouts, albeit neither in work time nor in the shops and departments. Now has come the next step: we are holding to the strictest party account the leading persons for the fact of not displaying sufficient personal initiative and aggressiveness in the fight against evil.

The strictness of the responsibility of inertia is, of course, no accident. We have seen with our own eyes, as they say, that eradicating a harmful habit and, consequently, enhancing discipline and the moral climate in the work-force is a perfectly feasible task.

Following familiarization with the heartening statistics, it was impossible not to once again return in one's thoughts to the April Plenum. This was for me far from the first Central Committee plenum in which I had participated. Earlier also I had voted seriously for the decisions proposed by the party and believed in the power of them. Earlier we evidently pinned too many hopes on adopted documents and the discussion thereof. It was naively assumed that since an urgent problem had been thoroughly discussed and a resolution had been approved, consequently, everything would subsequently turn out alright of its own accord. It did not turn out alright? We set about drawing up another, even "better" directive. We would agree, so it was both at the center and locally. And the main service of the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, in my view, was not only that it literally exploded the customary ideas and put forward the bold, innovative concept of an acceleration of socioeconomic development but primarily that, following it, getting by with the old equipment became practically impossible. There could be no further talk of perfecting the style of party work and not doing this. The Central Committee itself, after all, was not satisfied with formulation of the grand new assignment but also proposed a whole system of actions for its accomplishment.

Nor are we today also tiring of talking over and over about the need for the dynamism of the development of all spheres of our life. And there somehow as yet remains unnoticed the extraordinarily significant, in my opinion, fact that it, dynamism, has already begun to penetrate virtually all pores of economic, social and educational activity. And were I asked to briefly describe the year from April to April, I would call it a time of the origin precisely of dynamism and the formulation of new approaches to the accomplishment of the political, economic and social tasks which have arisen in full magnitude and the accumulation of new experience. And the evolution of stringency in respect of discipline and the moral climate is just one piece of graphic evidence of this. It is not difficult to adduce others also.

But who will say that significance was not attached earlier, for example, to work with the personnel? Yes, the party committees seemingly involved themselves in it more than anything. They selected, assigned and trained leaders. However, the policy of stimulation of the human factor put the problem in a different light. It first of all induced us to reflect: why is the very concept "personnel" so constricted? Does "personnel" only mean the authorities?

One had only to try and interpret the problem more broadly for it to immediately become clear: how could the party committees keep an eye on everyone? And the essentially simple truth was not grasped immediately. Why, as a matter of fact, must just the party committees work with the personnel? The local soviets? Trade Unions? Komsomol? We succeeded quite rapidly in associating all the above-mentioned components in the solution of the personnel problem, assigning everyone his place. A shifting of the accent in the matter of the responsibility of enterprise, construction site, organization and establishment leaders attempted to justify itself. They had long been accustomed to the fact that they would have, all the same, to answer for the plan, as for the rest, let the party, soviet, trade union authorities, whoever, worry their heads about it, only not them. And many of them, if failing to cope with this duty of theirs, became proficient in excusing disruptions by piling up allegedly "objective" factors, which could not be looked into all at once. One of the main ones characteristic of the plants, construction sites and kolkhozes: a shortage of labor resources. And since people are lacking, how were they, they said, responsible?

And here we attempted to change the reference point. We began to make demands primarily of the director, chairman and manager for the creation of a stable, full-fledged workforce. It soon transpired that we ourselves had had quite a superficial idea of the nature of the shortage of labor resources. The following typical picture was revealed, say. For some reason or other very many young people prefer to begin their working life not at the plant or construction site but in some quiet office, mainly out of the distribution sphere.... That quite often the very period of finding a job after graduation from school is often dragged out unduly. Who in this case will reinforce the labor collectives?

Thus did flash points for the application of forces appear and were graphically revealed to the Komsomol organizations and the soviet ispolkoms and their services. They had willy-nilly on the one hand to persuade the young men and women to begin their working life with a job at the plant, factory and construction site and, on the other, deal in earnest with the parasitic elements.

This work is continuing, and summing up the final results is as yet premature. I can only observe that we have already managed to bring the plants and factories and the majority of construction and transport organizations fully up to strength, in accordance with the staff schedule, with workers and specialists. The situation is somewhat more complex in the agricultural enterprises. But sound growth is heartening here also. Last year the kolkhozes and sovkhoses were reinforced by 3,500 new workers. We are currently anticipating an even bigger replenishment. Thus the shifting of accents in respect of exactingness and a real approach to the human factor has contributed everywhere to the better use of existing socioeconomic potential.

There is another ailment which is difficult, but responsive to treatment. I refer to the as yet quite prevalent "show" and endeavor to pass off the wish for reality and, sometimes, the erroneous orientation of the workforce.

Relapses into these phenomena may be traced in the example of the same "Kontaktor". The most galling aspect for us, virtually, was the fact that until recently this plant had been publicized extensively and presented almost as a model enterprise in all respects. The oblast Trade Unions Council even approved the experience of the plant's managers in respect of a strengthening of labor discipline and order and the development of the working people's initiative. It was ascertained here that they had not gotten around to looking into the life of the workforce. It was only the extraordinary occurrence which forced the true state of affairs to be addressed. And the king, it turned out, had not clothes. The increased wages had by no means contributed to an increase in the growth of production. It was set for 1986 lower than the average for the oblast. And things were not that good when it came to discipline.... That is, at the heart of an outwardly successful, "respectable" workforce was revealed such a bunch of contradictions, unfinished business and slackness that there could be no question of any encouragement of progressive experience.

We all learned a good lesson. We once again saw the true worth of superficiality. Accuracy and truthfulness of information and a thoughtful, in-depth study of the phenomena about which conclusions have to be drawn were demanded in the obkom bureau of the party, trade union, soviet and economic authorities.

For clarity I shall explain my thinking on the basis of specific examples from the practice of preparation for the 10th obkom plenum, which was memorable for all of us, at which measures were determined for the development of the agro-industrial complex and the fulfillment of plan quotas in respect of all types of agricultural product. But I would first make the reservation that even prior to this, since the 26th party congress, problems of the management of agricultural production and its development had been studied by the obkom 12 times at its plenums and bureau sessions and meetings of the party-economic aktiv, but the results which were looked for were not achieved. Why? Where and what were the reasons for the miscalculations? A scrupulous, unbiased investigation revealed the vulnerability of many of the measures which had been recommended previously.

For a long time we had proven to ourselves that the cereals yield attainable in favorable years could be taken as the average annual boundary for the next 5-year plan. We disregarded the inevitable (history is witness) droughty periods entailing a sharp fall in the productiveness of farming. And resisting the whims of the elements was something we had not learned. Thus we disoriented people and counseled them to adopt approaches to the solution of the problem which were obviously doomed to fail. And this was simply no good: for years we criticized the same shortcomings in agriculture, having nothing specific to offer.

It was such approaches that we intended rebuffing. And the preparations for the new plenum were conducted for several months prior to it. And all members of the obkom were involved in them, what is more. With their direct

participation the "bottlenecks" were ascertained, and the practical experience of unraveling them from a sector, rayon and farm angle was accumulated. Subsequently sitting in the auditorium were no longer tolerant listeners accustomed to platform sermons but concerned participants in the policy which was being formulated. When the party decisions and their leading ideas were reduced to facts and clear and precise action programs, we ourselves felt the great power which they could set in motion.

The change in the practice of preparation of obkom plenums and bureau meetings and oblast soviet sessions and the improvement of supervision of adopted decisions have exacerbated the problem of the machinery officials' shortage of time. After all, it has now become necessary for each of them to spend more time in the localities, study life in greater depth and become specifically involved in organization. But no hours have been added to the day. It is these circumstances, incidentally, which have brought about a whole series of changes throughout the oblast authorities' work style. In order to free people for specific work it was necessary to sharply reduce the number of various meetings and the number of workers summoned to them from the localities.

Previously various sessions of the management authorities were frequently merely a place for the clarification of viewpoints and approaches to the solution of a question under discussion. Now, when these opinions are ascertained in advance, those assembled collectively formulate, without becoming too much of a talking shop, a system of particular measures and make considered political evaluations of this phenomenon or the other.

In saying this I do not wish anyone to get the impression that all is as it should be here and that there is no longer anything to worry about. More the reverse. The quest for new approaches in tackling the tasks set by the Central Committee April Plenum and the 27th party congress has revealed such a mass of unfinished business on the part of the party committees and soviet, trade union and Komsomol authorities that it is not possible to grasp immediately what business to take up first and what may wait a little. The recent summation of the results of work in the first quarter of the current year upset us particularly.

No, there was no interruption. More, if what was done were approached by yesterday's standards, we should have to beat the drum and rejoice. The plans were overfulfilled in industry, construction and agriculture. The production growth rate was two-three times in excess of last year's level. The salutary nature of the ongoing changes has been perceived in relief and visibly by each inhabitant of the oblast. At his dinner table, in the store and on the street. We are currently doing a pretty good job of catering for the population's vegetable and dairy product requirements and have begun to switch to the free, "non-coupon" sale of meat products and intend as of May extending this procedure to butter also....

So what is there to grieve over? This is what. An analysis has shown that the growth that was achieved was secured with the minimum exertion. There is no use of the deep-lying reserves of production and huge latent potential of that same human factor in the air, as they say, here. At the time of the summation of the quarter's results I asked the director of the Dmitrovgrad Auto Parts Plant: why is such inadequate use being made of the capacity of this large modern enterprise?

"The plan which is established for us by the Volzhskiy Auto Plant is being fulfilled in accordance with the schedule."

"But you yourselves could show initiative and undertake, for example, the manufacture of spares for the Zhiguli's."

"We are guided by the plan we are given."

It is embarrassing to acknowledge this, but it would seem that the ideas of acceleration have gone in one ear and out of the other of this leader and of the Dmitrovgrad Gorkom as a whole.

But what tremendous danger there is in attempts to attune oneself to the trends of the time while essentially changing nothing. Many of them have been manifested already. I recently learned how the materials-intensiveness of products is being "reduced" at the Ulyanovsk Auto Plant. The price of the new vehicle is raised, but it is shown in the accounts that there has been a reduction in metal consumption "per ruble". Although the novelty itself proves... heavier (!) by 60 kilos. And other sharp managers have become good at achieving an increase in the production volume without undue effort: they order a few more purchased components, the price of the final product is increased—and there you have a handsome figure in the labor report! Need it be explained that the dodges of the time-servers have nothing in common with a genuine reorganization of management.

Certain party committees and local soviet ispolkoms have also succumbed to an aspiration to appear a little better and demonstrate their "comprehension" and "contemporaneity". Three rural rayons in our oblast hastened to straight-away declare themselves "sobriety rayons". The sale of alcoholic products was banned in them altogether. What, could their leaders really have persuaded all residents not to purchase strong drink? Nothing of the sort! They themselves are running "ahead of the train" and do not see how the kolkhoz and sovkhoz tractors and motor vehicles are scurrying around neighboring areas, where their drivers and passengers are on the lookout for wine counters.

It would be wrong in today's discussion to also remain silent about the fact that not all leaders of the oblast level have determined their place in the work which the party has begun or have a clear idea of what needs to be done.

But whereas in the oblast and rayon echelons we nonetheless sense heartening progress toward work in the new manner, too much timidity is as yet being displayed in the primary party organizations and the labor collectives. Many of them have yet to reach the level of exactingness necessary for imparting genuine dynamism to the development of all spheres of our life. I say this by no means to reproach either the primary organizations or the labor collectives. I simply wish to emphasize how much we party workers are losing sight of and how much pulling up we have to do. And do we always ourselves know how to pull the levers which under the new conditions can best contribute to the speediest psychological reorganization of the masses and take advantage of the wise Leninist principles of work with people? Everything is, understandably, difficult and complex here, however, we need to be clearly aware that no one will melt down the energy of intentions into the energy of practical action, as the party demands, for us and that we need to find in ourselves the powers to overcome all difficulties.

Deeds Not Words

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 86 p 2

[IZVESTIYA correspondent Zh. Mindubayev interview with G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Obkom: "Off the Beaten Track"]

[Text] [Question] Gennadiy Vasilyevich, the secretary in charge of agriculture was replaced not that long ago in the obkom. I recall puzzled voices: why has the man been removed? He had not manifestly misbehaved and was not mixed up in anything reprehensible. What, then, was it all about?

[Answer] To put it very briefly, he was released for sluggishness, conservatism and irresponsibility....

Yes, it was quite recently that "ossification" in work, lack of enterprise and an inability and, at times, unwillingness to assume the entire responsibility invested by the office were not perceived as being tolerable attributes of a leader. We had, of course, spoken about the fight against sluggishness and irresponsibility. But words had in time become a shield, as it were, protecting many leaders from a response. And the higher sometimes the office held by a person, the more "substantial" was the camouflage and the more unacceptable high-minded evaluations in respect of him seemed. How could it be: a person is seemingly conscientiously performing his duties and organizing the necessary measures, is himself consistent and has not been seen engaging in unbecoming conduct, why then abuse or, even more, dismiss him? And if in the area which he commands the necessary result is not being achieved, he alone is not responsible for this. It was such logic which long served to justify activity without perceptible results.

But the 27th party congress posed the question with Leninist straightforwardness and candor: the measure of our work must be not words but deeds. This is the main and sole criterion. If there are no perceptible changes, work is not, consequently, being directed properly.

And as far as concerns V. Delin, the former obkom secretary in charge of our agro-industrial complex, there had been many complaints about his work. Judge for yourself. Since the start of the 11th Five-Year Plan the oblast had failed to cope with the grain production and procurement plans. There was no "reserve of strength" in agriculture, and hopes were pinned on the weather and the "off-chance". Yet in our zone every third year is droughty. But the plans for land reclamation were being foiled from year to year. The team contract was being introduced only slowly. Social development of the countryside had lagged behind. But the leader would excuse himself: I am working like others before me. We blamed him precisely because he was working like the others, had changed nothing and had not influenced the state of affairs. It was for this that he was removed.

[Question] So, a battle with no quarter, as they say, has been declared against lack of enterprise and sluggishness of thinking? But how to recognize them--after all, there are in economic life so many seemingly objective hindrances impeding matters?

[Answer] Complacency and stagnation love to hide behind "objective" factors. In our oblast, for example, many people have in recent years become good at "adjusting" the production volume to fulfillment. They have come to reckon in respect of the sum total of annual plans with their downward adjustment. Social programs have been pushed into the background.

Behind all the omissions there have been, of course, specific officials, who had over the years become accustomed to the inertia of "limited activity". It suited them. Stopgap policy was excused by objective conditions, and this was in no way reflected in their position. For this reason many of those who had manifestly "stayed too long" had to be replaced.

The need to reorganize is as yet being recognized with difficulty by many leaders, and not only business leaders. But there can be no tarrying! We do not have the time. Living as we have lived heretofore--we abuse, we are given promises--is no longer possible. A leader who has failed to fully understand something can be put right. But if he even after the congress is faithful to the old stereotypes? He does not, consequently, understand the main thing. We and such people are heading in different directions.

[Question] You wish to say that he who is counting on happily "staying around" until pension time, working any old how, is now intolerable?

[Answer] Precisely, we will part with such people without regret. We demand of the party committees here: if the question of a worker's dismissal arises, not only those who are dismissing him but he himself also must be convinced of the need for this. He needs to be shown that he is not coping.

I shall give an example. We recently dismissed Abramov, director of the "Volzhanka" Confectionary Factory. He was told plainly and candidly: you are not reorganizing. But not feeling any particular "sin" for his part and living in the grip of old ideas, he attempted to embellish the situation at

the factory and get by with assurances, evidently assuming that things would end with the latest "pumping". But how to escape the facts? Production had not been improved for years, social problems had not been resolved. The former director did not enjoy authority in the workforce as a person bleeding for production but had "succeeded" by dint of office. Such conclusions were drawn with regard for a poll of public opinion.

[Question] The congress emphasized that the atmosphere of secrecy and lack of openness and a system of rendering account merely to a superior, but by no means to subordinates had contributed to the appearance of a large number of such "petty officials"? How are you combating this?

[Answer] An atmosphere has now been created in the oblast party organization wherein such "petty officials" feel uncomfortable.

First of all the leaders render account of their work in the primary party organizations. Their references are updated. Thus the leader unfailingly undergoes recertification before his party comrades. There is no escaping the evaluations which a person deserves here. Discussing the report of Director S. Shevtsov, communists of the Paper Factory imeni Dzerzhinskiy, for example, concluded that he had lost party-mindedness in the approach to the affairs of the workforce and was violating state and party discipline and for this reason had no moral right to lead. The ministry listened to the opinion of the party organization and relieved him of his duties. I would like to add that no confidence was expressed in respect of 11 leaders when rendering account to the workforce. Approximately 100 leaders of various levels openly acknowledged their mistakes and oversights in work. This practice tightens things up and compels people to get moving.

[Question] But sometimes public objection to a leader's opinion is fraught with negative consequences for the person objecting....

[Answer] It is precisely the system of openness and accountability which precludes such a thing.

[Question] Does it not seem to you that complacency is quite often the result of narrow-mindedness? A painful question in the management sphere is that the leader's competence is frequently very slight. How to raise it?

[Answer] Complacency arises when a person believes that he has learned everything in his field. He comes to a stop. Any innovation is an irritant to him. And this is not only a manifestation of narrow-mindedness, it is easily recognized. It is a question of the leader's low political and professional culture. And it cannot be reduced merely to a competent possession of the appropriate vocabulary.

After the congress everyone began talking--dynamism, reorganization, acceleration! Yet at every step word and deed in some leaders strive to scatter by different paths. At our auto plant, say (V. Chirkanov, chief engineer), there is much said about technical progress and a lowering of material-intensiveness, but the "uazik" four-wheel-drive vehicle is meanwhile getting

heavier and heavier! Or, say, the "Kontaktor" Plant managers decided to manufacture new housewares--mixers, meat grinders and so forth. But the basis for this allegedly latest equipment will be an old electric motor fortuitously "borrowed" by Director B. Uralets from a neighbor.... Or the Auto Parts Plant (S. Kvasha, director), despite the relatively high engineering level of production, is not embarking on an increase in the manufacture of automobile spares simply for the reason that, they say, the head enterprise--the Volzhskiy Auto Plant--has no need of them. But the population has a tremendous need of them. And it is calmly continuing to produce corkscrews.... And this is a step forward?

I believe that behind the words "the political culture of a leader" there should be, apart from everything else, such concepts as great erudition, an ability to look into the future and ensure unity of word and deed and a desire not only to find unutilized potential but also to commission it.

Not speaking, acting--this is the main thing today. Not all are ready for this. A problem arose in the rayon agro-industrial association system: the kolkhozes and sovkhoses have a 6-day work week, some agro-industrial services, a 5-day week. They came to the obkom for instructions: what is to be done? We answered: seek, suggest--it is for this that you have now been endowed with all rights.

[Question] Personal responsibility, consequently?

[Answer] Nothing else! A further example: we allocated sufficient land for group orchards. But many people cannot yet work at that--sometimes the price of the small orchard house is too high, sometimes getting to the plot is difficult. Two executives--V. Kurbatov, first deputy chairman of the oblistpolkom, and A. Maryev, chairman of the oblast Trade Unions Council--were assigned this business, and they set about it (their positions prevented their refusing!), but without enthusiasm, without respect for people. As a result the land exists and small houses can be built, but the work has come to a standstill and has not assumed the necessary proportions. The comrades were told plainly: you are personally responsible for the development of partnership horticulture. Think, decide, organize. Seek the procedure most acceptable to the population. You will have to answer for the assigned work--and not only in reprimands.

[Question] You were elected obkom first secretary comparatively recently--2 1/2 years ago. What have you managed to do in the sphere of reorganization since the party congress? What not? And why?

[Answer] Primarily in evaluating leaders' activity we have begun to proceed not only from what has been done but also from what has not been done. What could have been done, but has not been done. Do you see the difference? That is, we are accustoming people to the idea: do not attempt to confine yourselves just to "punching out" the necessary indicators, study the problem in depth, seek efficient, long-term solutions. "Up to date for today" is not for us, it is necessary to look to the assurance of success tomorrow and the day after tomorrow.

I shall illustrate this idea once again in problems of agriculture. Take the drought. Since it exists as a reality, consequently, it needs to be countered also by something more practicable than complaints. For this reason we decided to increase several times over the rate of irrigation and reclamation, and we are now achieving this.

We have, "all together," set about in earnest the solution of the food problem. We posed the question thus: no references to oversights! And if the food supply is inadequate, people must know who is responsible for this, from whose personal lack of dispatch their interests are suffering. For this reason we said openly: the obkom first secretary and oblispolkom chairman in the oblast and the corresponding leaders in the cities and rayons are primarily responsible for the normal provision of the population with foodstuffs. And if these questions are resolved inadequately, consequently, the leaders are inadequate.

Initiative, socialist enterprise--this is what many of our leaders are still lacking. I recently called at a store on the outskirts of the city and fell into conversation with the people waiting in line for meat products. It was a frank discussion, and they spoke about what was troubling them most: about the fact that here, on the outskirts, supply is worse than in the center, about the fact that the telephone system is poor and transport leaves much to be desired.... Do the rayon leaders know about these needs? And the local soviet deputy--what is his role? People cannot remember who the deputy is. If meetings with him are indeed organized, he speaks to the people from behind the presidium table, from a script.

Therefore to the question of what I have managed and not managed I answer as follows. It is naive to assume that many problems which have piled up over the years will be solved in an instant. Yes, we have succeeded in stabilizing the work of industry in the oblast and ensuring the acquisition of agricultural products within the planned limits. But we are only just starting on the quest for stimulating economic interrelations in economic life and adjusting the optimum relations along department--territory lines and have embarked on realization of the "Progress-90" program of technical acceleration. Always plenty of cares and concerns. And we must strive to ensure that all components of management independently exercise their functions in full. This, I believe, is the primary condition of acceleration.

Housing Law Violations

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jun 86 p 3

[Response to PRAVDA article from G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Obkom: "In the Name of Justice"]

[Text] The article "At a Sharp Turn" (PRAVDA for 6 July) mentioned the conflict situation which had come about in Ulyanovsk Oblast's Veshkayskiy Rayon. We consider it necessary to report the essence of what happened and the measures which were adopted in more detail.

The obkom received letters from residents of Veshkaymskiy Rayon which dealt with violations of housing legislation during the allocation of living space in the Veshkayma Community. While many working people in need of housing had been waiting fruitlessly for such for years, a number of officials would switch from one well-appointed apartment to another without any waiting. The construction of individual homes, whose area exceeded the established quotas, for executives had become widespread.

All this occurred because the rayispolkom had for a long time not conducted the proper registration of citizens in need of living space, records pertaining to housing issues were in a neglected condition and there was a lack of openness and collective spirit in the allocation of apartments. Despite repeated warnings on the part of the higher authorities, Rayispolkom Chairman D. Mityagin adopted an irresponsible approach to compliance with housing legislation. Violating the standards of social justice, he personally contributed to the illegal allocation of apartments to certain rayon executives, himself took the path of abuse of office and displayed rudeness and arrogance toward the citizens who had appealed to him.

All this was keenly and impartially discussed on 4 July at an assembly of citizens of Veshkayma Community, which received Rayispolkom Chairman D. Mityagin's report "The State of and Measures To Resolve the Housing Problem in the Rayon Center in the 12th Five-Year Plan".

The citizens' assembly resolved that D. Mityagin had forfeited people's confidence and the right to be rayispolkom chairman and deputy of the rayon and oblast soviets. The assembly also asked the Veshkaymskiy Raykom to examine the question of the party liability of CPSU members guilty of the illegal allocation and acquisition of housing, and the rayon prosecutor, of the legality of the authorization issued for the acquisition of housing.

The same day a raykom plenum was held at which the information "Results of the Assembly of Citizens of Veshkayma Community and Instances of the Most Flagrant Violations of Housing Legislation and Social Justice in the Registration and Allocation of Housing in the Rayon" was presented by G. Kiryukhin, first secretary of the raykom.

The raykom plenum observed in the adopted decrees that the rayispolkom and its chairman, the communist D. Mityagin, were not catering for the necessary reorganization of their work in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and were not adopting due measures to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee decree "Guidelines of an Acceleration of the Solution of the Housing Problem in the Country".

The plenum also observed that the violations and abuse of office which had been perpetrated had been possible as a result of the absence of due party-minded adherence to principle and strictness on the part of the raykom bureau in the evaluation of executives' political and moral attributes.

For use of office for personal ends and the illegal allocation of housing to a number of executives, which led to an undermining of the authority of the soviet and party bodies, D. Mityagin was expelled from the CPSU. The plenum agreed with the decision of the citizens' assembly and proposed that a rayon soviet session dismiss Mityagin from office.

The plenum charged the raykom bureau and the primary party organizations with examination of the question of the party liability of the communists who had acquired housing in violation of the principle of social justice and had engaged in abuse of office and personal immodesty in the development of their apartments.

Following the raykom plenum there was a session of the rayon soviet which examined the question of the rayispolkom chairman. The deputies who spoke were unanimous that D. Mityagin had by his incorrect actions undermined the authority of the local organ of power and could not continue to lead it. The session relieved Mityagin of his duties as chairman of the Veshkaymskiy Rayon Soviet.

Having heard the report of the Credentials Commission, the rayon soviet resolved to strip rayon soviet deputies D. Mityagin and V. Yegorov, chief physician of the rayon hospital, of their powers as deputies in connection with loss of the moral right to their continued performance of deputy's duties. The personal cases of the communists N. Samarin, chairman of the Veshkaymskiy Rayon Consumer Society, N. Salyukov, chief of the rayon Agro-Industrial Association Construction Department, S. Shilov, chief of the rayispolkom Construction and Architecture Department, V. Yegorov and Raysel-khozkhimiya Chairman N. Petsin were examined in the primary party organizations. Samarin, Salyukov and Shilov were expelled from the CPSU, and Yegorov and Petsin were severely reprimanded, this being noted on their record. They were all relieved of their positions. Samarin, Yegorov and Petsin are currently moving out of their individual homes.

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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

SLYUNKOV SPEECH AT MEETING WITH MINSK VOTERS

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 25 Nov 86 pp 1-2

[Speech by N.N. Slyunkov: "The Restructuring Is a Matter for Each and All"]

[Text] N.N. Slyunkov Meeting With Electors

The restructuring in all areas of economic and social life is of crucial importance with respect to accomplishing the complex and large-scale tasks involved in accelerating the nation's social and economic development. The workers of Belorussia are taking an active part in its implementation. The CPSU's strategic course has broad support and is acquiring real embodiment in the specific deeds of the kolkhoz and other workers and the intelligentsia.

Only the first steps have now been taken on the long and complex path of acceleration, however.

A demanding discussion on increasing the contribution of city and republic workers to the acceleration of the nation's social and economic development took place on 24 November at a meeting of electors of the Minsk-Sovetskiy Electoral District with N.N. Slyunkov, deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and First Secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. Representatives of the labor collectives in the Belorussian capital's Pervomayskiy and Sovetskiy rayons participated in the meeting.

Announcements of the meeting were posted in the labor collectives a month and a half in advance. During the preparations the deputy received numerous letters and comments from workers, containing their desires and critical comments directed toward accelerating the restructuring, toward the successful accomplishment of the production tasks and the resolution of social issues, toward the strengthening of discipline and order. This made it possible to get a better sense of the people's mood, to gain a more thorough understanding of their concerns and to take the opinions and suggestions of the workers more fully into account.

The meeting was opened by V.G. Galko, First Secretary of the party's Minsk gor-kom.

N.N. Slyunkov made a long speech to the electors.

N.N. Slyunkov Speech

Respected comrades:

The party and the Soviet people are busy implementing the historic decisions coming out of the 27th CPSU Congress. The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and the government of the USSR are persistently and consistently pursuing the course of accelerating the nation's social and economic development and restructuring all aspects of our life.

A number of economic, social and organizational-political measures have been worked out and have begun to be implemented. They are aimed at accelerating the development of key sectors of the economy, improving the investment policy, the structure of public production and the system of administration and management, democratizing our entire life, intensifying the struggle for social justice, and ultimately, further improving the Soviet people's welfare.

The people and the party support these measures wholly and entirely. Their implementation will make it possible in the near future to resolve economic, social and indoctrinational issues on a higher level.

There is probably not a person in this hall who has not seen and not felt the positive changes occurring in our life. There is probably also no one who would say that what has been accomplished is enough, however.

Yes, comrades, the restructuring process, which began with the April 1985 Central Committee Plenum and was injected with a powerful charge of acceleration at the 27th CPSU Congress, is only just developing, only gaining force.

All of us--the Central Committee secretary and the worker, the minister and the engineer, the white-collar worker and the kolkhoz worker--must clearly understand that this process depends upon each of us, upon our attitude toward the matter, upon our addition to the work, upon what we are going to be in our common home, managers or sideline observers.

All of us who are participating in the restructuring are cognizant of the fact that a person can do a great deal when he has an incentive.

"We workers in the mechanization and automation department and in Shop No. 112 at the Plant imeni Ordzhonikidze," Vasilii Anufriyevich Ivantsov, fitter and chairman of the shop council of brigade leaders, said, sharing his thoughts in a letter received just before our meeting, "fully approve the party line of restructuring, of intensifying the national economy, of instilling order and discipline."

The nation's workers are supporting the party decisions with aware and creative labor.

During the 10 months, industrial output volume in the nation grew by 5.1 percent, compared with a planned 4.3, and labor productivity increased 4.8 percent. The assigned task of achieving rates of development for production at the level of the average annual targets for the five-year plan, in the first year of the five-year plan, is being accomplished.

Better results have been achieved in crop production and animal husbandry than last year. Rates of capital construction have grown.

There has been improvement in the resolution of social matters. More housing, social and cultural facilities have been completed. The supply of food products and manufactured goods for the population has improved.

The 6th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet was recently held. It passed the Law on the State Plan of Economic and Social Development for the Nation for the Year 1987, which focuses mainly on achieving fuller activation of long-term factors for increasing public production.

The plan fully conforms to the strategic course outlined at the 27th CPSU Congress and to the targets set in the 12th Five-Year Plan. One of its important merits is the fact that it contains for the first time a complete elaboration of a system of social measures aimed at further improving the people's welfare and embracing all aspects of the Soviet people's life.

Comrades, the implementation of the acceleration course has imparted dynamism also to the development of our republic's economy. During the 10 months, industrial output volume grew by 7.2 percent, with a target of 4.4, and labor productivity increased 6.7 percent, compared with a planned 4.1.

The farm workers harvested 25 quintals of grain per hectare. A record harvest of potatoes, 209 quintals, and [other] root crops, almost 450 quintals, was obtained. Milk procurements grew by 7 percent, meat procurements by 8. A record increase of 250 kilograms in milk yields per cow is anticipated. The yield per cow will reach the level of 2,750 kilograms for the first time.

The farm workers have prepared for the wintering, laying in 14 percent more feed for the stalling period than last year.

The plans for the 10 months were fulfilled by construction workers, workers in rail and motor-vehicle transport, and consumer services.

Housing completions grew by 19 percent during this period; school completions, 23; and capital investments in the development of medical facilities, 40 percent. Retail trade turnover increased by 7.7 percent, by 8.9 percent when alcoholic beverages are excluded. Incidentally, the population spent 302 million rubles, or 33 percent, less on alcoholic beverages during the 10 months.

Sales of meat in the republic grew by 12,300 tons, or 4 percent; milk and dairy products, by 217,000 tons, or 9 percent, including an increase of 3,900 tons, or 9 percent, for butter; and sales of fish products grew by 11 percent.

We are pleased with the fact that the workers of your rayons have also begun the five-year plan quite well. Industrial output volume increased by 12.9 percent in Sovetskiy Rayon during the 10 months, by 10.2 percent in Pervomayskiy Rayon, which exceeded the targets. The fact that in both rayons the entire increase was achieved by increasing labor productivity, and in Pervomayskiy, without increasing the consumption of rolled ferrous metals, is important.

You can see, comrades, that a turnaround has taken shape. If we view what has been accomplished in a critical manner, however, from the standpoint of the demands set forth at the 27th CPSU Congress--and we are obligated to assess it only in this way--then we absolutely must add to this the fact that the turnaround has not taken shape as perceptibly as we would like. We have not succeeded in accomplishing everything which was planned.

The results which I have mentioned were achieved mainly by strengthening labor, state and planning discipline and by establishing order--that is, with reserves which lie on the surface, so to speak.

With respect to in-depth reserves involving the activation of long-term strategic growth factors, they have still been activated only to a small degree. I have in mind the acceleration of scientific and technological progress, intensification, improvement of the technical level and quality of the product, and the intensification of conservation.

The return from the funds invested by the state continues to be small, and progressive technologies are being adopted slowly in industry, construction, transport and agriculture. There are numerous shortcomings in trade, consumer and medical services for the population.

What needs to be done in order for the acceleration to become stable and dynamic?

This question concerns our party's Central Committee and Politburo today. It concerns all of the Communists and all honorable workers.

The question could also be posed this way: Have our people entered fully into the resolution of economic problems and problems involved in accelerating scientific and technological progress and the administration of production, into the work of the local soviets of people's deputies and public organizations? Are they performing as required by the times, as required for satisfying the every-growing needs of the Soviet people?

A precise and clear answer to these questions is contained in decisions coming out of the June 1986 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and in talks and speeches by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev during his visit to the Far East, to Stavropol and Krasnodar krais.

The restructuring needs to be accelerated, comrades. The restructuring in the minds and hearts, in the thinking and the psychology, in the approaches and the actions. It needs to be carried out, as Vladimir Ilich Lenin taught us, "from all sides, with the involvement of all the workers and peasants," needs to be carried out from the top and the bottom at once, over the entire front, at all levels, in all spheres. Absolutely all spheres, since it is perfectly clear that without altering and restructuring the social sphere, we will not raise the economy up to the proper level.

Something else is also clear: that the restructuring can be accomplished if we improve, thoroughly improve, the moral climate in the society.

The attitude toward the restructuring in its initial stage, which is where we are right now, is not the same throughout. The majority, having understood the need for it, are performing vigorously and persistently seeking ways to improve things. There are also other groups of workers, however.

Adherents of the wait-and-see tactic reason that since the restructuring is not a one-time act of the moment but a long process, there is no reason to hurry.

Others who have the old way of thinking and acting, having improved the work slightly, are prepared to report: We have completed the restructuring.

There is a small group of people who are merely pretending to restructure, skillfully accommodating themselves to the new demands and conditions. These people constantly use the word "restructuring," but things are not improving.

We must be able to distinguish those who are truly restructuring from those who are actually doing nothing to achieve this.

There are many people, of course, who are unquestionably for the restructuring but do not know where to begin, how to restructure, in what direction to proceed. We encounter this question frequently in your letters, comments and proposals, which we have passed on. The question is at the same time complex and simple.

It is complex because the restructuring itself is a complicated and revolutionary process aimed at reforming the deeply rooted structures in the economic, political and social areas of life.

This process demands of all of us a dismantling of our psychology, of established stereotypes in our thinking and our actions, of resistant habits. It calls for the development of initiative, a quest for approaches other than the standard ones, and enhanced personal responsibility.

It is simple, however, because the answer is not terribly hard to find. One sometimes hears it asked why a person who works conscientiously and performs his job well should restructure. Let everyone ask himself whether he is utilizing all the possibilities, however. Has he activated all of his potential--spiritual, physical and moral? Has he done everything he can, everything he is obligated to do?

Everyone needs to begin the restructuring with himself, with us, the Communists. We are the ones to set the example in improving the work style with new methods of management, the development of democracy and of the people's creative activeness, directing it toward the fulfillment of the 27th party congress decisions.

Analyzing things at every work station, determining where, by means of what, and how something can be added to performance, activating unutilized reserves and striving for the very best results--this is how we need to begin the restructuring, comrades.

The progression of the restructuring is constantly at the center of attention of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. It is directing its efforts toward the further enhancement of the labor and sociopolitical activeness of the Communists, of all the republic's workers, toward the resolution of key economic, social and ideological problems.

I would remind you, comrades, that in the economic area it is primarily a matter of reorienting the investment and structural policy, accelerating the reconstruction and technical reequipment of existing production operations, actively developing machine building, fundamentally improving the technological level and quality of the product, and reducing outlays for its production.

You know the measures worked out in this area at the 30th Congress of the Belorussian Communist Party and at the 2nd and 3rd plenums of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party. Their implementation has been started. Neither the pace nor the quality of this work can be accepted as satisfactory, however.

It is planned to increase the specific portion of capital invested in reconstruction and technical reequipment in the republic to 73 percent by the end of the five-year period by reducing the amount of new construction. This means that an additional 1.2 billion rubles can be used to acquire equipment, and close to 600 million rubles for the construction of housing and other items of social significance.

Minsk is reaching the same level, 73 percent. The figures are lower in Pervomayskiy Rayon (71 percent) and particularly in Sovetskiy Rayon (48).

What is holding your rayons back? It is primarily the computer association (48 percent), the industrial metal structures plant (66.2) and certain other enterprises. At the same time, Belenergoemnaladka is applying almost all of its capital investments, 95.5 percent, to the reconstruction and technical reequipment of production.

The working out and coordination of programs for intensifying production, taking the Leningrad initiative into account, is presently being completed in the republic. It is important not to lose time but to activate all available possibilities.

You are slow in updating your equipment, comrades. A third of the equipment in industry in the city and in your rayons has been operating 10 years or more. And almost half of the machine tools and machinery is obsolete at the industrial metal structures plant and the Promsvyaz plant.

A study has shown that this has not caused serious concern, however. Approximately 7.6 percent of the obsolete equipment in Minsk, 11.5 in Sovetskiy Rayon and 7.8 in Pervomayskiy Rayon will be removed this year, while the target was 12 percent.

When one begins to examine why this is happening, various reasons are given. The main thing, however, is the fact that some workers are not bothering to seek reserves, have not rid themselves of the old approaches and habits, and have not given up trying to cover their own inertia and lack of resourcefulness by claiming various kinds of difficulties.

It should be obvious to everyone that if you want to replace your equipment more rapidly, then produce machine tools and machinery more rapidly and in greater

quantities yourself. This has still not become the rule for many collectives in your rayons and in the city as a whole, however.

It is planned to increase the specific portion of in-house machine-tool building on a commercial scale to 1.06 percent in Minsk, 0.8 in Sovetskiy Rayon, and 1.35 in Pervomayskiy Rayon by the end of the five-year period.

These are extremely low figures. I would remind you that the 3rd Plenum of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee assigned you the task of increasing the portion of in-house machine-tool building to 4 percent.

I would like for you to reconsider this matter. A number of the letters I received contain worthwhile advice. Among other things, they propose cooperation by several enterprises for the rapid resolution of the problem. This is unquestionably the right way to go, and we should use it extensively.

Particular attention needs to be given to increasing the output of equipment making it possible to accelerate production mechanization and automation. Assembly, electrical installation, adjustment and tuning operations account for 45 percent or more of the labor outlays at many of your enterprises, since they are mainly performed manually.

There are some good examples in this respect at the watch plant, the Termoplast plant and the Plant imeni Vavilov, both in mass and large-series production and in small-series production. We do not need individual examples today, however, but a comprehensive approach. The designing of products itself must provide for the possibility of automating the manufacturing processes.

There are many shortcomings with respect to equipment utilization in your rayons. The machine-shift coefficient is below the republic level at the Termoplast plant (1.52) and certain others.

These figures, comrades, indicate reserves which you have, and you can fully activate them by switching to a double- or triple-shift operation. Slightly more than one third of the workers now work on the second shift in Minsk, and around 6 percent on the third. We have to state bluntly that the party organizations of the city and of Sovetskiy and Pervomayskiy rayons are doing a poor job of accomplishing this task, and the establishment of a higher shift ratio at the enterprises is being carried out slowly.

What is the situation, comrades? The target of increasing the equipment shift coefficient to 1.9 by the end of the year has been set for Minsk. This will make it possible to free around 20 percent of the work stations. If urgent steps are not taken right now, however, the assignment might not be accomplished.

At the present time, it is planned to raise the coefficient to 1.73 in the city, 1.84 in Sovetskiy Rayon and 1.62 in Pervomayskiy Rayon.

If you stop there, only 11.5 percent of the work stations will be freed in industry in Minsk, including 7.5 percent in Sovetskiy Rayon (with a target of 11.2) and 19 in Pervomayskiy Rayon (27.9).

There is very little time left. Party and soviet organs of the city and rayons, party organizations and management leaders at the enterprises, organizations and establishments must revise their calculations and plans with this in mind. And you have the possibilities. Suffice it to say that 38 percent of the work stations do not measure up to the modern demands in Minsk, including 45 percent in Pervomayskiy Rayon and 20 in Sovetskiy Rayon.

Many of your letters which have been passed on to me ask the question: It is unquestionably a useful and necessary thing to switch to a double- or triple-shift operation, but will the city authorities be able to reorganize the operation of transport, schools, kindergartens and nurseries, health clinics and stores--in short, the entire service sphere--within such a short time?

Leaders of the city ispolkom have announced that they have taken all the necessary steps to convert Minsk's industry to an increased-shift operation. Bus, trolley and streetcar routes have been adjusted, and the number of units in operation has been increased during the peak hours. Duty groups are being assigned from 0600 to 0645 at preschool facilities and schools, and groups for round-the-clock care of children are being enlarged. The operating schedule of consumer and municipal service, public dining and trade enterprises has been altered.

A number of enterprises in the city went over to an increased-shift operation on 1 November. The service sector is also operating on a new schedule. Are the people satisfied with it? Do they have comments, complaints or suggestions? The city ispolkom together with the rayon ispolkoms should review once more everything which has been done.

You know, comrades, what kind of urgency was attached to the technological level and quality at the 27th CPSU Congress. There was a reason for this. The party has moved this to the forefront in its economic policy. We will not achieve acceleration in the nation's development without fundamentally improving product quality.

The republic has not advanced in this area, but has even fallen back from the positions previously gained. The output of items in the highest category fell by 1 percent during the 10 months.

If the republic took a step backward, however, then Minsk took an entire dozen. The city produced 19.2 percent fewer products bearing the Emblem of Quality during the period January-October than during the corresponding period of last year. And Sovetskiy Rayon broke the record for regressing--70 percent.

A number of models of automobiles, computers, television sets and certain other products were deprived of the Emblem of Quality because they did not measure up to similar world products.

Why has this happened? There can be only one conclusion: there has not been a sharp turn toward quality in the party organizations and labor collectives. It has not been placed at the center of all their efforts. And among these collectives, the computer association has to be the worst.

In recent years, the leadership at the plant and the development institute has become satisfied with what has been achieved and lost its perspective in the

technological development of computers. The result: they lag considerably behind similar foreign products. The Emblem of Quality has been taken away from the YeS-1035 and YeS-1061 electronic computers. Only 15.7 percent of the output at the enterprise is now in the highest category. It is planned to increase the figure to 47 percent by the end of the five-year period, although the June Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee assigned us the task of raising the portion of products conforming to the best similar world models to 80-95 percent, and to 100 percent for new designs.

Not to catch up to but to surpass foreign firms--this is the only way the matter can be put today. It is only with this yardstick that the association's collective must approach the production of a new product, personal computers.

In view of the urgency and the newness of this task, a regional scientific and technological program has been worked out in the republic, involving scientific research organizations and enterprises in a number of branches, the Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of the Belorussian SSR. The Scientific Research Institute of Electronic Computers still has the main role in its implementation, however. The institute leadership is still operating in the old way, not seeking new approaches, being irresolute in adopting fundamentally new technical decisions, and not concerning itself with creating the necessary scientific and technological foundation for producing superior designs.

The Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers recently approved a republic system for fundamentally improving product quality. The oblasts, rayons, cities, associations and enterprises should have similar systems. Quality-promoting groups should be set up in the shops and sections.

It is important that this work not be conducted as a formality. The task is one of ensuring that the systems and the quality-promoting groups are highly effective, that every worker is responsible at his own work station for the honor of the plant trademark.

Science must give greater attention to the resolution of all these problems. The extensive possibilities and considerable scientific capability of the academy are not being fully utilized. The work is being conducted with timidity, and its scope does not meet the modern requirements.

It is the academy's primary task to focus its efforts and means on the priority areas of fundamental and applied research in accordance with the requirements for scientific and technological development of the republic and of the nation as a whole, and on strengthening its ties with production.

VUZ, branch and plant science must step up its work in this area.

Comrades, our party has no greater concern than its concern for the welfare and happiness of the Soviet people. Every point in the social program worked out at the 27th CPSU Congress is imbued with precisely this concern. It is through this concern that the human factor and the enormous potential of the Soviet society must be activated.

Attaching special importance to the balanced development of the republic's capital, the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the Belorussian SSR passed a special decree on the development of the city of Minsk. They have established specific assignments for the construction of housing, schools and preschool facilities, hospitals, health clinics, trade, public dining and municipal service facilities.

Housing is the most acute problem. One senses this from your letters and comments. There are presently 131,000 families in line for better housing in Minsk.

As you know, the party has adopted a decision to provide every family with a separate apartment or house by the year 2000. The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee recently approved an initiative of the collective at the Gorkiy Motor Vehicle Plant to beat this, to resolve the problem by 1995.

This valuable initiative has support also in our republic. At the Belorussian Optical Instrument Association, it was calculated that more than 7,000 apartments would have to be built at a cost of more than 80 million rubles. There was a question about where the funds were to be obtained and how such a construction volume could be accomplished.

The solution was to work better and therefore, to earn more and to apply more funds to housing. It is planned to build more than one fourth of all the apartments with deductions from the funds for social and cultural development and material incentives, as well as with the personal funds of the workers. In-house construction will be expanded, for which purpose it is planned to develop the existing repair and construction subdivisions and to build up their plant.

Not just those who are waiting in line, but all of the plant workers will take part in the housing construction.

We hope that other labor collectives in the city will undertake to resolve this problem with the same sort of initiative and energy.

This will make it possible to considerably exceed the target of building 4.5 million square meters of housing set for Minsk. It is planned to renew the individual housing construction. This will be carried out in the park and wooded zone of the city in the form of settlements with all the services and utilities.

Calculations show that by making better use of existing capacities, effecting the technical reconstruction of enterprises and switching to a double- or triple-shift operation, the people of Minsk could free enough additional funds for increasing housing construction to exceed that specified in the plans by 10-15 percent.

In his letter, Dmitriy Dorianovich Zhukov, senior instructor at the Belorussian Polytechnic Institute, correctly brings up the need to improve the procedure for razing blocks of individual housing for new construction. Good houses are presently sometimes destroyed along with the dilapidated ones. This is certainly not good management. There should be only one principle: that a maximum effort be made to preserve every square meter of suitable housing.

It is important not just to build housing, but also to maintain it in good condition. I completely agree with the opinion of the authors of some of the comments I received: apartment repair is poorly organized in the city. Both the length of time required and the quality of the repair work are evoking justified complaints in the population.

A harmful practice has developed in the city. In the first place, the repair of housing requiring basic reconstruction or modernization is put off from year to year, while the funds are mainly spent on cosmetic repairs. In the second place, year after year the plans for comprehensive, major repair of the housing stock are not fulfilled.

Those in charge in the city ispolkom and the Pervomayskiy and Sovetskiy rayon ispolkoms must restructure and face up to the problems which affect the interests of literally all categories of the population.

The Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services needs to thoroughly restructure. At the end of October, the Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee discussed its performance with respect to improving the quality of housing and municipal services. Steps were specified for improving this sphere. We shall constantly monitor their implementation. It has been decided to reinforce the leadership of this important branch.

Comrades, every resident needs to change his attitude toward the housing stock. Many people restrict the concept "home" to the confines of their own apartment and do not care what happens beyond its walls.

This is an unsuitable position, one which is alien to our way of life and to the Soviet individual's collectivistic nature.

I cannot refrain from saying some words of approval about the 1,500 enthusiasts from Sovetskiy and Pervomayskiy rayons. They have set up public brigades and are repairing stairwells and entrances, and improving the grounds without recompense. These brigades performed almost 20,000 rubles worth of work just during the spring and summer period.

Initiatives like this should be supported and encouraged in every way. They can be highly beneficial. We can only improve housing maintenance and the yards and build athletic grounds with the extensive involvement of the community. We have very many social facilities in need of our help.

You know that the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has adopted a decision to release all projects within the standard periods. All of them, including--or, one should say, first of all--the social facilities. The dissemination of this valuable initiative will help us not only to release them on or ahead of schedule, but also to build many new ones.

The gorkom and the city ispolkom need to think about how to energize and organize the people, how to involve each and all in the publically useful labor. The possibilities provided by the Law on Individual Labor, passed at the 6th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, need to be fully utilized.

It can be performed by adult citizens when they are not working at their main jobs, by housewives, the disabled, pensioners and students, and in cases specified by the law, by individuals not participating in public production.

The law will promote greater satisfaction of the population's needs for goods and services, and help to improve our people's well-being.

Many of the letters I have received contain questions about prospects for the construction of garages and the development of garden and orchard societies.

There is a need for garages for 26,000 vehicles in the city today. The ispol-koms of the rayon soviets have already allocated 14 plots for the construction of garages to house 11,000 vehicles, including one plot each in Sovetskiy and Pervomayskiy rayons. An average of six parking areas for 3,000 vehicles will be built each year in addition to this. The matter will thus be basically resolved during the current five-year period.

Minsk residents now have 46,000 garden and orchard plots. The number will be increased by 62,000 during the 5 years.

It is planned to increase sales of construction materials and articles to the population several times over. Steps are being taken to expand the production of completely prefabricated garden sheds, the demand for which is still not being met. Their manufacture is being converted to industrialized methods.

Certain advances have taken shape with respect to satisfying the population's demand for goods. During the 10 months, the production of consumer goods increased by 10.4 percent, the production of non-food goods by 6.2. The market has been saturated for a number of them, and quality is improving.

Both the one who produces the goods and the one who buys them will agree, however, that we are still a long way from fully satisfying the population's demand for quality goods. There continues to be a shortage of well-made footwear, clothing and household appliances which make human labor easier. Imported goods are preferred in the case of many products.

The Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party and the republic government are taking vigorous steps to decisively improve the situation in this important area. These efforts will be inadequate, however, if the labor collectives remain on the sideline. After all, everything we see in the stores but do not want to buy was made by and for us.

The possibilities of group "A" enterprises need to be utilized more fully. The republic already has many plants producing consumer goods which add up to or exceed the wage fund. These include the Termoplast plant, where 1 ruble 66 kopecks worth of goods are produced per ruble of wage fund.

The experience of these collectives is spreading slowly, however. The figure is 21 kopecks at the Promsvyaz plant. The computer association has a large plant and highly skilled workers. But what kind of goods does it produce? Lamps, which could not be called technically complex products.

An attempt was made to master production of the Omfiton (telemagnitola), but it proved to be a hard nut to crack, and they did not succeed. Following the production of an unsuccessful test batch, they took the easy way out. They took the item out of production and provided nothing important as a replacement.

A number of the comments I received dealt with the organization of trade and consumer services. For the sake of fairness, it should be noted that changes have been started in this area. The Minsk residents have greeted with approval the children's cafes and the snackbars set up in converted entrances to apartment buildings, and other fast-service enterprises.

The comrades are right, however, when they say that there are still many shortcomings and they are being corrected very slowly.

A total of 11 out of 15 city trade organizations, two out of nine dining facility trusts, and Sovetskiy Rayon as a whole did not fulfill the retail commodity turnover plan for the 10 months.

The caliber of trade and consumer services is not improving. Seven out of 10 complaints received by the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Trade since the beginning of the year came from Minsk. A third of them were from Pervomayskiy and Sovetskiy rayons. During the first 9 months, the number of orders filled at the consumer service enterprises in the city increased by 6 percent, but the number of complaints grew by 27.2.

Frankly, these are depressing figures. Do the managers responsible for providing trade and consumer services in the city see this? Do they know about it? This is not the first time they have been criticized, but there is no sense of a restructuring in their thinking or their work methods.

The reserves of industrial enterprises are not being utilized for this purpose. The party's attitude toward this matter is known. A decision has been adopted. It is being poorly implemented, however. Only 25 of 47 large industrial enterprises have expanded these operations. The space allocated in a number of places is inadequate for providing the workers with the necessary range of services. In addition, most of the plants and associations are not trying to do what is needed by the population but that which can be accomplished without special effort or bother.

The situation with respect to the development of the system of workers' dining facilities is not any better. Their capacity is 83 percent of the norm in Minsk, with an average republic figure of 93. It is only 55 and 67 percent respectively in Sovetskiy and Pervomayskiy rayons.

Some managers forget that the development of the social sphere is an absolute requirement for the restructuring and an important means of enhancing the labor and the public-political activeness of our people.

The establishment of dining halls or snackbars at plants and factories, and food and consumer service ordering stores or sections at the large ones, must be completed in the city this year as specified in decisions of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government. The number of seats

in the dining halls must be brought up to the norm at every industrial enterprise no later than 1988. We are monitoring these decisions particularly. The rayon soviets and all of the deputies must also put forth some concrete effort.

The matters of fundamentally improving the quality of the prepared courses, enlarging the assortment and improving the service are vitally important issues mentioned in your letters and suggestions.

Those in charge of the city's public dining facilities are present here. I have to say, comrades, that you are doing a poor job of managing the branch. The service at public dining enterprises did not improve this year. There are many cases in which customers are shortchanged, given short weight or are overcharged on the retail prices.

The situation has to be corrected immediately, corrected in two ways. The Ministry of Trade and the ispolkoms of the local soviets must take serious steps. Public monitoring must be simultaneously intensified. I have in mind stepping up the work of the people's control agencies, the deputy groups, the commissions of the trade union organizations, public inspectors, and so forth.

We need to make the Belorussian capital an example in the organization of exemplary service.

Many of the comrades who have appealed to me are disturbed by deficiencies in the medical service and cite refusals to accept people for hospitalization, cases of inferior treatment and rudeness toward patients on the part of medical personnel, and a low caliber of treatment at medical facilities.

Well, their anger is perfectly justified. The restructuring is in fact proceeding far more slowly in medicine than in other service areas.

The Belorussian SSR's Ministry of Health and other republic departments have been assigned the task of improving medical services by relying on help from local party and soviet organs for shaping a broad social approach to preventive medicine and improvement of the population's health, and for demonstrating initiative in introducing physical and health-improvement measures and establishing a healthy daily way of life among the people.

Public health facilities will be strengthened. Minsk will reach the established norm with respect to the development of its out-patient facilities by the end of the five-year period.

The situation is somewhat worse with respect to hospitals. There is a shortage of approximately 2,000 beds. The gorkom, the city ispolkom and I are going to have to get back to this matter, to seek additional funds and resolve it.

A review of the letters shows that new methods of diagnostics and treatment are not being widely disseminated in health care practices and that the existing equipment is not being put to full use. With respect to this, I simply have to cite an excerpt from a letter from Mikhail Petrovich Kiselev, deputy chief physician at the 1st City Clinical Hospital.

"For some reason, there has formed the opinion that the acceleration should apply only to industry. Attitudes of dependency continue to exist in medicine, and the medical service is to be improved with new construction, additional equipment and the enlistment of additional personnel. However, we have possibilities for increasing labor productivity and improving the work by restructuring and by means of the technology for receiving and examining patients, and with optimal distribution of the work performed by the specialists and auxiliary personnel."

This is very correct thinking. It is not just a matter of building up and developing the facilities. Many health centers and hospitals could be built with no benefit if the people continue to operate in the old way.

The health agencies need to carefully study advanced know-how in this area in the nation and abroad, and to adopt it in the day-to-day practices of the health facilities.

In many of the letters, people complain about the fact that one cannot make an appointment with a doctor by telephone at certain stomatological polyclinics. After reviewing the complaints, the city health department introduced a uniform procedure whereby one can telephone for an appointment to see a doctor in any specialty at any of the city's polyclinics.

Comrades, accelerating the changes occurring in the nation means seeking new approaches and new keys to the resolution of problems not only in the social and economic, but also the spiritual and moral areas.

Our times demand the bold breakup of forms and methods of ideological, political and indoctrinational work.

The individual work is particularly in need of major improvement. Every individual, with his daily concerns and interests, with his attitude toward things and his way of life, must always be within the vision of the labor collective, must be an object of our constant influence.

We need to resolutely root out the infamous "gross," "vast coverage," and working in spurts, the wholesale approach to the indoctrination of people, the disrespectful, formal and bureaucratic attitude toward their needs and requests. Formalism and bureaucracy are not to be tolerated in any guise, in any form, at any institution.

G.S. Berezneva, a worker in the Belorussian Optical Instrument Association, was assigned a 3-room apartment in May 1985. It was her turn to receive an apartment. For fabricated reasons and contrary to the housing laws, however, the Pervomayskiy Rayon Ispolkom did not approve the decision.

There was nothing left for Berezneva to do but to complain at various levels. Twice, the Minsk procuracy brought the infractions to the attention of the rayon ispolkom. Workers with the rayon ispolkom still did not take the trouble to thoroughly study all of the circumstances, to look into the essence of the matter, to look for alternatives to its decision. Not until the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee intervened was the worker's legal right honored.

But the soviet agencies, comrades, are required not only to be attentive, sensitive and benevolently inclined toward the people, themselves, not only to set an example in this respect, but also to see to it that this sort of treatment, inherent in the very nature of our humanistic society, becomes the rule for all organizations and establishments.

The role of the soviets of people's deputies is growing significantly today in all areas of life. Decrees recently passed by the party and the government open up broad possibilities for the soviets to be complete and competent agencies of authority for the workers, to bear responsibility for everything occurring within their territory.

The restructuring involves a relentless battle against everything immoral, everything which is contrary to the Soviet way of life and which nourishes views and actions alien to us.

In order to win this battle, we must use every available means to alter the climate which has developed in a number of collectives, a climate of public passivity, indifference and tolerance of shortcomings and their perpetrators, of those who violate our laws and moral standards, who live beyond their means.

The first results of this battle can already be felt. Sales of alcoholic beverages in Minsk fell 25.4 percent below last year's level, for example, and the people of Minsk spent 20 million rubles less to purchase them.

This has had a positive effect with respect to strengthening discipline and public order. Losses of work time due to absenteeism were reduced by 43 percent in industry and construction during the 6-month period; alcohol-related crimes, by almost 29 percent; and the number of traffic accidents, by one third.

These figures are further, convincing proof that the party's determined course of establishing a sober way of life is the correct one.

The campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism needs to be stepped up. After all, what has been achieved is mainly a result of bans and restrictions. There has not yet been a fundamental shift in the minds of the people.

We need effective steps to shape convictions, nonalcoholic customs and traditions. Therein lies a broad range for action by the ideological services and institutions, by the labor collectives, public organizations and law-enforcement agencies.

The campaign against unearned income must be equally determined. Administrative and explanatory measures must be combined with the elimination of the causes of these negative occurrences. The [policy of] openness must be extensively utilized in their eradication.

Openness, comrades, is not just a matter of informing people. It is a political matter. Concealing the truth amounts to contempt for the individual. It creates distrust in the party and the state. We have begun further developing and intensifying openness. You know that our press, television and radio provide complete and thorough information on the work of the Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, the party obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms, soviet and management agencies, and public organizations.

This is not always the case, however. An individual sometimes comes to the reception room of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and learns about something which has happened in the collective in which he works. Why was he not informed? Why is he not aware of what is going on in the nation, the republic and the city? Why does he know absolutely nothing about what is taking place in the microrayon, the shop and the plant?

The only answer is that certain party committees, soviet organs, trade union organizations and labor collectives continue to resolve matters of vital importance to the people in secrecy and not in the salubrious air of openness.

This certainly does not help the individual to feel that he is in charge. Lenin's idea that every worker should "feel that he is not only the boss at his plant, but a representative of the nation, feel the responsibility," is valid today as never before.

I would like to say something about responsibility in particular. The personality begins with demandingness of oneself. If an individual is demanding of himself and does not make allowances for himself in matter large or small, he thereby develops and strengthens in his character on a daily basis such an important quality as discipline.

An undisciplined person is a dangerous person. In the situation of rapidly developing scientific and technological progress, in the situation of interdependency of production, social and moral ties, a lack of discipline on the part of a single worker instantly affects those around him.

All of you know what a lack of discipline, even on the part of individual workers, can cause in your labor collectives. We pay too dearly for it all. The role of discipline and organization has grown immeasurably today, when people are handling extremely complex equipment.

I am discussing this in such great detail in order to heighten your attention to this extremely urgent problem, the resolution of which is our common cause, the cause of each and all.

Comrades, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee is striving to creatively implement the principles set forth at the 27th CPSU Congress with respect to enhancing the political activeness, the initiative and responsibility, the competence and efficiency of the cadres. Many young and energetic workers have recently been promoted to positions of responsibility in the republic. They are effectively introducing new approaches to the accomplishment of social and economic, and indoctrinational tasks.

We are at the same time resolutely ridding ourselves of workers who are not conscientious in the performance of their service duties, who are sluggish, who demonstrate a lack of professional competence and treat people with arrogance and contempt.

The Buro of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee recently discussed the matter of gross infractions of socialist legality committed by workers with law-enforcement agencies in the investigation and adjudication of a

number of serious crimes committed in Vitebsk Oblast. Innocent citizens were given harsh sentences.

Those sentences have now been rescinded.

The unjustified conviction of innocent citizens was a result of negligence on the part of individual workers with the procuracy, the police and the court toward their duties, a result of an attempt to create the appearance that a good job is being done in the exposure of crimes.

The Bureau of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee judged all of the officials involved from a standpoint of principle. Republic Procurator Makarov and Belorussian SSR Minister of Justice Chkanikov were relieved of their duties. Former Procurator Mogilnitskiy and member of the Belorussian Supreme Court Vydrin were expelled from the CPSU.

A number of other responsible workers were severely punished. A total of 69 workers with law-enforcement agencies were brought to party accountability, and 13 Communists were expelled from the party. A total of 23 people were fired from the agencies and removed from the court staffs. The USSR Procuracy is conducting an investigation into the infractions, and the guilty parties will be held criminally liable.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee will continue to bring to strict and principled account those who violate socialist legality, those who handle their assigned job irresponsibly, formally and indifferently, those who abuse their service position and defraud the state.

Comrades, you know how persistently and consistently our nation, pursuing the course outlined at the 27th CPSU Congress, is striving to avert the threat of a thermonuclear war. This year alone, the leadership of the USSR has advanced many important foreign policy proposals dictated by an extremely great sense of responsibility for the fate of peace on Earth. The West has stubbornly taken all of the talks down a blind alley, however.

The Soviet-American summit meeting at Reykjavik was an important international event. The Soviet side took an honorable and open position. Our bold and far-reaching proposals were a concrete, practical manifestation of the new approach to complex international problems in the age of nuclear missiles.

The Soviet Union's innovative initiatives, put forth by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, opened up the way to an agreement on such extremely important matters as the reduction and subsequently, the complete elimination, of strategic offensive weapons and the destruction of medium-range missiles in Europe. The implementation of these proposals would have made it possible to achieve a turning point in the development of international relations and to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war.

The U.S. President was not prepared to engage in constructive talks, however. There was an obvious lack of new thinking. Everything was eclipsed by the infamous SDI, the Strategic Defense Initiative. The U.S. administration frustrated the adoption of extremely important, historic decisions for the sake of "star wars."

We should not give ourselves over to pessimism, however. We have a qualitatively different situation, which is prompting everyone both to think and to act in a new way.

The appeal of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the parliaments and peoples of the world was imbued with precisely this, a call to action. At an extraordinarily important time in man's history, our nation's highest agency of state power calls upon all parliaments and peoples to resolutely promote a practical transition to the building of a nuclear-free world and to establish equal and reliable security for all states.

In order to successfully advance along the path of accelerated social and economic development, we need to preserve and strengthen peace. The better and the more rapidly we resolve the large-scale problems involved in our economic growth and our social and cultural development, the more solid and reliable will be the foundation for universal peace on earth.

As you have noticed, comrades, I have devoted the greatest attention to shortcomings and unresolved matters. It always has been and always will be in the tradition of our Leninist party not to be satisfied with what has been achieved, not to become complacent, but to move forward without fail, to achieve more without fail.

In order to move further, we need to rid ourselves of everything retarding our movement, everything interfering with our advance. This is why we must critically assess what has been done and develop criticism and self-criticism, universally and at all levels.

Comrades, I received about 200 letters and comments during the preparations for our meeting. They discuss various problems affecting the development of the economy, the social sphere, culture and science. Many interesting questions were raised, and useful suggestions were made. I have attempted to answer some of the questions, those of public interest.

All of the questions, wishes and critical comments requiring study and the adoption of appropriate decisions have been assigned to republic, city and rayon party, soviet and management agencies for review.

All of the writers will receive a reply.

In conclusion, permit me to thank you for participating in our meeting, to wish you new successes in the work performed for the benefit of the homeland, good health and well-being.

The following spoke at the meeting: Hero of Socialist Labor A.I. Goroshko, milling-machine operator in the Production Association imeni V.I. Lenin; V.A. Pilipovich, chief scientific secretary for the Presidium of the Belorussian SSR Academy of Sciences; G.V. Yermeyev, student at the Minsk Radio Engineering Institute and deputy to the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet; T.V. Ryabtseva, physician at the 1st City Clinical Hospital, and others. They spoke of the vitalizing force of the changes taking place, of ways to increase the contribution made by the labor collectives to the restructuring and the acceleration, and of a desire to achieve a universal breakthrough toward improvement in all areas of economic and cultural development.

N.N. Slyunkov answered questions from the electors.

A.A. Malofeyev, First Secretary of the Minsk Oblast Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party, took part in the meeting.

11499

CSO: 1800/168

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

BELORUSSIAN, MOLDAVIAN SUPREME SOVIET SESSIONS REPORTED

Belorussian SSR

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by M. Shimanskiy, IZVESTIYA staff correspondent]

[Text] The Fifth Session of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet has taken place. The report on the State Plan for the economic and social development of this republic during 1987 as well as concerning progress in fulfilling the current year's plan was delivered by V. Kebich, the deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers and the chairman of Gosplan.

This speaker, as well as those deputies who took part in the discussions, devoted their principal attention to the question of more fully utilizing reserves for increasing production and raising the level of its efficiency, as required by restructuring. Unfortunately, there are associations, enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes which have not been successful in coping with their planned assignments. Sometimes they have failed to ship out products in accordance with the agreements concluded by them. Nor have they always ensured a high level of quality in their construction work.

The principal feature of Plan-87 is an increase in production efficiency based on accelerating scientific and technical progress, introducing the new economic mechanism, and economizing on all kinds of material resources. We intend to master the output of more than 200 new, extremely important types of machinery, machine tools, equipment, and materials. Industry, for example, plans to introduce 315 robotic complexes, and 17 flexible production systems will go on line. Provision has been made to develop the leading sectors--machine building and metalworking, chemistry and petrochemistry--ahead of schedule.

The leading sector in this republic's agroindustrial complex is livestock raising. We intend to accomplish a great deal with regard to further strengthening its feed base, while provision is being made to put into operation capacities for producing meat, whole-milk products, and cheese.

Large-scale measures will be carried out in this republic with regard to social development and an upgrading of the people's well-being. The total amount of stocks available for public consumption will reach an equivalent of 5.5 billion rubles. The output of consumer goods as measured in retail prices is slated to reach 17.9 billion rubles. New clubs and houses of culture will appear in Belorussia's cities and villages. The seating capacity of the general-education schools will be increased by more than 54,000, while there will be 34,300 more places in kindergartens and nurseries.

The deputies focused their attention on the fact that these intentions can be successfully carried out only on condition that a true business-like quality and responsibility exists everywhere and in everything, that every labor group keys its efforts to producing a good end result

The deputies paid a great deal of attention to the discussion of Belorussia's budget for 1987, as well as to the performance of the budget for 1985. The deputies likewise discussed the question of the work being conducted by this republic with respect to implementing the comprehensive program for the development of consumer-goods production and the service field for the years 1986-2000.

Taking part in the work of this session was N.N. Slyunkov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee.

Moldavian SSR

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by E. Kondratov, IZVESTIYA staff correspondent]

[Text] The present year has turned out to be very complicated and more intense than ever before for Moldavia. A prolonged drought, which adversely affected this republic's fields and plantations, as well as a powerful earthquake, which struck it during the autumn, combined to seriously complicate the fulfillment of the national-economic tasks assigned to those who labor on Moldavia's land. Nevertheless, people did not shrink when confronted by these difficulties. Having fulfilled the principal economic indicators for the 10-month plan and having ensured the necessary production growth rate, the working people of this republic thereby created the genuine prerequisites for successfully completing the first year of the five-year plan. The growth in production volume has been by 6.8 percent, the above-plan output has reached almost 1.5 rubles, while the rate of development in machine building has more than doubled. All this attests to the fact that our republic has done a good bit of work. Even the summertime drought did not prevent us from coping with the planned deliveries of this land's gifts: 750,000 tons of fruits, vegetables, and grapes were shipped out--amounting to almost 3 kilograms per capita.

However, not everything turned out successfully in our republic this year. For example, we obviously did not attain the necessary level in accelerating scientific and technical progress; many enterprises did not operate smoothly, and because of this the country failed to obtain products worth 100 million rubles.

After objectively evaluating the republic's omissions and reporting on the performance of the budget, the speakers--V. Kutyarkin, deputy chairman of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers, and A. Budyanu, the Moldavian SSR minister of finances--acquainted the deputies with the principal milestones which are intended to be reached in 1987. Reorienting this republic's economy onto the intensive path of development is the chief target for the new year of the five-year plan. Some 95 percent of the increase in the national income will be obtained by means of a growth in labor productivity. There is slated to be a 13-percent increase in the profits of industry, while the profitability of agriculture is to exceed 32 percent. Scientific achievements will be put into production more energetically, and thanks to this the stocks of computer equipment will triple during the space of a year.

In the joint report of the standing committees and in speeches by the deputies it was noted that the milestones outlined by the plan correspond fully to the requirements of the times and are consonant with the course aimed at this republic's accelerated socio-economic development during the 12th Five-Year Plan. The session also heard sharp, principled, and resounding criticism of the vicious practice of padding and eyewashing, which has taken place at our republic's enterprises and farms. In connection with this, the session discussed the accounting report by V. Fomin, the Moldavian minister of automotive transport.

2384

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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UKRAINIAN CP CC ADDRESSES NEGATIVE PHENOMENA IN LVOV OBLAST

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 7 Dec 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian CP Central Committee"]

[Text] The Ukrainian CP Central Committee has discussed the progress being made in restructuring the work of the Lvov Oblispolkom with regard to accelerating the comprehensive development of this oblast's economy and socio-cultural sphere in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. It was pointed out that the oblispolkom, as well as many gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms, has been too slow in restructuring its activity; it has allowed serious shortcomings to occur in the leadership of economic and cultural construction. The oblast has been losing its position as an initiator in the struggle for a high level of product quality. In the agroindustrial complex use is not being made of the considerable reserves available for producing grain, animal feeds, and early vegetables. For the year 1990 it is planned to produce less meat than provided for by the Food Program. Shortcomings in capital construction are being eliminated too slowly. The soviets are not working vigorously enough at developing the social infrastructure.

We have not yet reached a crucial turning-point in the struggle against various abuses, unearned income, parasitism, drunkenness, and drug addiction.

The oblispolkom, along with its chairman, Comrade M.I. Kirey, has not yet achieved a radical renovation in its style of work; it is lacking in an attitude of self-criticism, and its standards are not exacting enough. It has manifested an excessively liberal attitude toward those officials who have embarked upon the path of eyewashing. Mistakes have been allowed to occur in the selection and deployment of personnel, particularly those of soviet organs in the rural areas.

The Central Committee has drawn the attention of the Lvov Oblispolkom to shortcomings in restructuring the activity of this oblast's soviet organs and has ordered it to take decisive measures with regard to implementing the provisions of the resolution passed by the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers on enhancing the role and responsibility of the soviets for accelerating socio-economic development in light of the decisions made by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Also examined here were questions connected with the creation of women's councils in labor groups, at places of residence, as well as at the rayon, city, and republic levels. The party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, along with the ispolkoms of the oblast, city, rayon, village, and settlement Soviets of People's Deputies, were assigned the tasks of carrying out the necessary work to create women's councils and to render them continuous assistance. In this connection, we must proceed from the position of the CPSU Central Committee to the effect that women's councils must actively help the party to involve women in socio-political life, in administering matters of the state and the society, as well as in solving production, social, and ideological-moral problems. They must facilitate the development of women's creative capabilities, the enhancement of their role within the family, the raising of children, and the organization of a healthy everyday life. It is necessary to profoundly study the needs and requirements of women, to defend their interests, and to facilitate their broad-based participation in the struggle for peace and friendship between peoples.

The Ukrainian CP Central Committee and the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers have passed a resolution on awarding the State Prizes of the Ukrainian SSR in the field of science and technology for 1986. Announcement of these awards will be published in the press.

2384

CSD: 1800/201

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA

TASS CALLS PARIS DRUG REPORT ANTI-SOVIET FORGERY

LD191652 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1410 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Paris, 19 Dec (TASS)--Yuriy Lopatin, TASS correspondent reports: The Parisian weekly EXPRESS got itself into a mess. The same day that a report came from Moscow about Soviet customs thwarting an attempt to transit a large batch of hashish across USSR territory, EXPRESS carried a regular anti-Soviet forgery blaming our country this time for attempts to "destabilize" the West with the help of...narcotics.

The cover of today's edition shows a corresponding image: In the background of a picture of a heap of bags with stupefying poison is depicted an enormous five-pointed red star. A symbol, how can one put it,--garish--calculated to draw attention to a slanderous accusation smudged over a dozen pages. Its author--a certain Brian Crosier, whom the weekly introduces as a specialist in the "Soviet menace" and who is working for a number of American and British mass information organs, is trying to prove that the drug trade has become "the most important weapon" in the political war which the USSR "wages against the West." At the same time, of course, the obligatory blasphemous reference to Lenin is not forgotten, to whom is attributed the notorious plan, concocted by Western special services, of "world-wide revolution by any means." And once any means are permitted, then why should the Soviet Union--according to the author's primitive logic--not make use of narcotics to undermine the West?

Facts? There are none, of course, nor can there be. Everything is based on unsubstantiated, uncorroborated assertions, blatant fictions, and the most shameless lies. The fact that, specifically in relation to drugs, Soviet legislation is perhaps the most uncompromising and harshest in the world is of no importance to the professional anti-Soviet agitator. Besides the USSR, he also seeks to defile with filthy slander other socialist countries--Cuba, Bulgaria, the GDR, Czechoslovakia, China, and the DPRK.

Today's EXPRESS publication is not, of course, fortuitous. It clearly ties in with the smuggling operation involving hashish, which was to have travelled secretly through the USSR in a sealed container and then to have been discovered, with full publicity, at its destination--Hamburg, West Germany. One

can imagine the propagandist furor that would have been unleashed by the Western mass media if our customs officials had been less vigilant, and the consignment owned incidentally, by the American firm Specific International [Spesifil Interneshn], had ended up in Hamburg. Perhaps Western correspondents, including a man from the EXPRESS, were already waiting for it there.

And the final point: To accuse the socialist countries of attempts to poison the West with drugs--such an idea can only arise when all the traditional arguments in the propaganda war against the socialist community are really exhausted, and when there is absolutely nothing left with which to respond to its active peace-loving initiatives. Undoubtedly, drug addiction has long been an immense social evil in the West, but it has been spread, to a fair degree, not by the mythical "hand of Moscow," but by organized crime in all its forms, based on support from a corrupt part of the state apparatus and the police. In recent years, they have been joined by Afghan dushmans and circles linked with them. Needless to say, though, EXPRESS makes no mention of that.

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CSO: 1830/209

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

BOOK DISCUSSES NON-MARXIST CONCEPTS OF SOCIALISM

PM161013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[A. Nikolayev review under the rubric "Among Books": "Socialist Ideas and the Present"]

[Text] A book which deserves the attention of people with an interest in problems of socialism in the modern world has been published in the series "Critique of Bourgeois Ideology and Revisionism" (Footnote) ("Non-Marxist Concepts of Socialism" [Nemarksistskiye kontseptsii sotsializma], "Mysl" Publishing House, Moscow, 1986). The present critical time in human history and in the history of our state, which in 1917 was the first to embark on realizing the socialist concept of society, makes us pay particular attention to works of this kind. Thus, the book under review, for example, contains the answer to a question that is frequently put: Why, despite the attractiveness of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and of the experience of real socialism, have very different concepts of non-Marxist socialism spread and why are they still spreading in many countries?

We will not cite here the authors' answer to this question. We will just point out that the phenomenon of different "socialisms" has been brought about, in particular, by the very strong impact of socialist ideals on the consciousness of the masses and on the expressers of their interests.

The book--the work of a large collective of Soviet philosophers--provides a critically generalizing view of the variety of contemporary non-Marxist concepts of socialism. The authors characterize the socioeconomic, historical, and ideological-theoretical sources and class content of these concepts and show their role in the ideological struggle and the attitude of Marxist-Leninist parties to them. They have also set themselves the aim of revealing the link and interaction of non-Marxist socialist theories with the economic, social, and political life of developed capitalist and recently liberated countries and the influence of these doctrines on the actual socioeconomic policy of particular parties and states.

It is important to know this, for such knowledge is of great significance for uniting all revolutionary, anti-imperialist forces. Constructive dialogue and cooperation among representatives of different socialist trends and the pooling of their efforts to remove the threat of nuclear war and against the arms race can strengthen the ranks of fighters for peace and social progress. And it is of great importance to win this battle today.

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

NEW BOOK ON NATIONALITY, ETHNICITY, SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENT

Moscow OBNCHESTVENNYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 1--PROBLEMY NAUCHNOGO KOMMUNIZMA
in Russian No 5, 1986 pp 138-146

[Review by A. F. Tsyrukun of book "Kommunizm i natsii" [Communism and Nations] by F. T. Konstantinov, I. P. Tsameryan, E. V. Tadevosyan, and others, Moscow, Nauka, 1985, 352 pages]

[Text] This book consists of an introduction, 11 chapters and a conclusion.

In the introduction (by F. T. Konstantinov and I. P. Tsameryan) it is noted that the concept of "communism" in the book's title is not used in the sense of the highest phase of a communist society, but rather in the sense of a single communist formation, encompassing both its higher and lower phases, as well as in the sense that communism is a scientific theory and ideology.

The first chapter is "Methodological Problems of the Marxist-Leninist Doctrine of Nations and National Relations" (I. P. Tsameryan). The nation is "an historical form of human community in the capitalist era (the capitalist national type) or the socialist era (the socialist national type) which is characterized by stable commonality of economic functions, language, territory and national character, the latter being manifested through specific features of culture and everyday customs" (p 17). Capitalist and socialist nations differ in their social nature. The definitive feature of a nation is its common economic system, which directly reflects the economic foundation and basis of a nation and is the most important precondition for its formation.

In the author's opinion, the concept of "national character" and the "psychological makeup of a nation" are identical, but the former is more precise. A common national character represents the totality of sentiments and perceptions which have formed under the influence of physical conditions and the external environment during a given nation's process of formation and development. In a way it accumulates and gathers unto itself the particular features of a given people's historical development, working conditions, socioeconomic and political life, natural (geographical) environment, etc. These feelings, impressions and perceptions are crystallized in traditions, customs, habits and features of everyday life, in unique national features and in the characteristics of art, literature and culture as a whole.

"The presence of a state does not, in our opinion, necessarily denote the existence of a nation. It is also not obligatory for the formation and development of socialist nations" (p 22).

All the hallmarks of nations have differing social significance under capitalism and socialism. In the author's opinion, "the class polarization of a bourgeois nation extends fully to all the traits and aspects of the life of that nation, including its ethnic characteristics" (p 32). A socialist nation is characterized by increasing unity and intactness on both the social and ethnic levels. With regard to the latter the author is of the opinion that, on the one hand, "under socialism the character and relative significance of ethnic characteristics are being constantly reduced" (p 32), yet on the other hand "there is observable a tendency toward the elimination of differences between purely ethnic and national traits" (p 32) as a result of intensive internationalization and an increase in the social homogeneity of society. Even at the current stage of socialism's development "delineation of ethnic traits, aspects or phenomena in the life of a nation is becoming conditional, for the reason that all so-called ethnic traits, processes, etc. are national" (pp 37-38). Over the long range differences between the ethnic and the national will disappear.

A nation is an historical community of human beings. "This term designates communities of people, the origin and development of which are of an historical, objectively law-abiding nature, communities which are based upon a definite economic foundation, distributed over a definite territory and distinctive on account of a definite social essence and nature" (p 35). Hence it follows that all human communities of an ideological or generally superstructural nature (for example, religious, political or other communities) cannot be considered to be historical communities. (In the author's opinion these also do not include the family or classes: the former contains a biophysical element, and the latter extend beyond the territorial bounds which are characteristic of historical communities).

Also, for example, Ukrainians, Armenians, etc. living abroad are not part of their respective nations.

E. V. Tadevosyan, the author of Chapter 2 -- "The Soviet Multiethnic State of All the People and Tendencies of Its Development" -- arrives at the following general conclusions (pp 67-68).

The successful establishment, development and functioning of socialism in a multiethnic country is inseparable from a deepening of the internationalism of all aspects of the life of its nations and nationalities, complete elimination of national isolation and continual reinforcement of the internationalist commonality of society.

In the political realm this is expressed through further internationalization of Soviet union- and national-level state entities, which at any given stage are an embodiment of the national character of the political system of developed socialism. Further internationalization of Soviet union- and national-level state entities is a complex and multifaceted process,

integrally linked to deeper socialist democracy and expressing a common general direction of development, the perfection of socialism and its metamorphosis into communism.

The Soviet federation and the Soviet national state entity at the stage of building socialism serve as one of the most important political forms of socialist resolution of the nationalities question. Today they act as important state forms for ensuring the closest unity, all-round flourishing and further convergence of Soviet nations and nationalities toward their attainment of complete unity. It is reckoned that they will extend over the entire historical period of the existence of the socialist state entity and its gradual metamorphosis into a system of communist public self-government.

In Chapter 3 -- "Conformances to Law in the Development of Soviet Socialist Nations, Nationalities and National Relations at the Stage of Mature Socialism" (Yu. V. Bromley, F. T. Konstantinov, V. M. Semenov and B. A. Shuvalov) -- it is demonstrated that flourishing and convergence are the mainline trends in the development of Soviet socialist nations and nationalities, and that "the process of convergence of nations is the main component and essence of a new type of national relations" (p 76). The unity of nations, which has its origins in the collectivist nature of socialist society, expresses the underlying qualitative state of their mutual relations and is manifested in all areas of the development of Soviet society.

The ethnic aspects of national processes in the USSR are as follows. Obviously the time of greatest activity of interethnic and intraethnic consolidation processes has already passed. The compactness of distribution of individual nationalities is lessening. Natural assimilation processes are intensifying. The number of interethnic marriages, the primary channel for such assimilation, is growing. Ethnodemographic processes are also leading to changes in the numerical balance among nationalities. Interethnic integration is intensifying; this is a mainline area of national processes in our country at the present time. It is being manifested by convergence of peoples' cultures, by the creation of a "cultural stratum" which is unified in content although diverse in form, and by the creation of unified lifestyle characteristics. The real basis for these processes is the socioeconomic and ideological-political commonality of our country's nations and nationalities within the framework of the Soviet people as a new historical community.

The development of nations in the USSR, like all development, is not without contradictions, both objective and subjective. Among the former are, for example, contradictions originating in differences in the levels and nature of economic and social development, in the possibility of incomplete agreement between the interests of individual nations, as well as the interests of republics and the country as a whole, etc. The latter arise as the result of the objective laws of the development of socialism being ignored and the dialectic of the objective and the subjective being violated.

A natural part of the process of transition to communism will be the transformation of socialist nations and nationalities into communist nations and nationalities; these latter will possess certain new traits and specific

features as compared to their socialist variants, these new characteristics being the result of society's higher level of economic, social and spiritual development. The process of the establishment of communist nations and nationalities will be connected with the attainment of complete unity among nations and nationalities as component parts of the Soviet people, with the development of socialism and communism on a worldwide scale, and with the formation of regional interethnic communities.

Chapter 4 is entitled "A New Historical Community: the Soviet People Under Conditions of Mature Socialism" (V. M. Semenov, Yu. V. Bromley, F. T. Konstantinov, M. V. Iordan and G. M. Svirin). This new historical community of people -- the Soviet people -- originated on the basis of public ownership of the means of production, unity of economic, sociopolitical and cultural functions, Marxist-Leninist ideology and the interests and communist ideals of the working class. The specifics of the Soviet people as a special manifestation of the socialist community of people result from the fact that the USSR was the first country to embark on the road to socialism under conditions of capitalist encirclement, and that its socialist system was constructed in a huge country with an extremely complex ethnic structure. The social foundations of this new historical human community originated and grew stronger in proportion to the overall construction of socialism; but this community as a socially new quality came fully into its own with the country's entrance into the stage of mature socialism. At the present stage the development of the Soviet people is characterized by further reinforcement and deepening of its unity, intensification of the process of internationalization of all aspects of society and ongoing elimination of class differences. Ceaseless, progressive convergence of its component nations and nationalities is occurring. The development of the Soviet people is one of the manifestations of socialist collectivism.

The Soviet people possesses not only a unified territory and economy, but also a common culture and common consciousness. Yet this is not grounds to classify it as a nation. The problem is, in particular, that on the whole the specific traits of the cultural life of the Soviet people are considerably less homogeneous (on account of multiethnicity) than the purely ethnic, national-specific traits of the nations which comprise it.

Reinforcement of unity creates an internationalist foundation for the flourishing of nations, and the development of diversity is encouraged by expansion of intercourse among nations, which in turn is a stimulus for their convergence. "A national community as a component part of a whole asserts itself in this manner when maximum consideration is given to national specificity, and as a relatively independent formation develops primarily on the basis of its contribution to the all-union fund" (p 133).

Although this new stage of historical community is the successor to the nation it does not, however, form a national unit, since it signifies unity of both classes and social groups. Among the historical forms of communities it "will occupy one of the interim places between the socioethnic series (tribe, nationality, nation) and the coming unified and diverse communist human community" (p 146). In proportion to its historical development the Soviet people will metamorphose from a socialist to a communist entity. In this

sense, assert the authors, the Soviet people is "historically speaking, the first form of human community which conforms adequately to this new phase in the development of humanity: the communist socioeconomic formation" (p 147). The Soviet people is the prototype of future regional socialist communities which "will most likely be formed in those regions of the world with the most intensively expressed internationalist processes" (p 150).

In Chapter 5 -- "All-Soviet Pride: An Internationalist Trait of a New Historical Human Community" (R. A. Salikov) -- the preconditions and basic stages in the development of this pride, which coincides with the stages of socialism's development, are noted. All-Soviet pride is an "effective, integral sociopolitical feeling of the Soviet people which represents a sociopsychological reflection of the economic, sociopolitical and spiritual development of society under conditions of mature socialism. It is an assemblage of the interests, sentiments, emotions and convictions with which Soviet people manifest not only their pride in our society's achievements, but also their active lifelong stance promoting the construction of communism" (p 167). The need for directed inculcation of such pride is underscored.

Chapter 6 is "The International and the National in the Socialist Way of Life and Prospects for Its Metamorphosis Into a Communist Way of Life" (V. G. Babakov). What has arisen in the USSR is a socialist way of life which is common to all nations and nationalities, the subject of which is the Soviet people. This does not exclude manifestations of specific traits in the activities of various social (including national) groups of Soviet people. The specific features of the lifestyles of nations and nationalities are in large part the result of historical, geographical and ethnocultural circumstances, economic and social differences, etc. Levelling of such differences leads to the formation of a way of life for the Soviet people as interethnic community which is homogeneous in its economic, social-class and moral-political aspects.

In Chapter 7 -- "The Formation of the New Man: Patriot and Internationalist Under Conditions of Mature Socialism" (B. A. Shuvalov) -- it is demonstrated that the dialectic unity of the international and the national is typical of the creation, lifestyle and behavior of the Soviet man. The relationship of the international-general and the national-specific is not the same in various realms of individuals' activities (for example, in the realm of public and political activities, on the one hand, and in everyday life, where ethnic differences are of great significance, on the other). What is occurring is intensification of the significance of the interethnic, all-Soviet component in the individual's practical life and spiritual image.

Chapter 8 is "Interethnic Aspects of the Spiritual Life and Improvement of Culture in Soviet Society" (Yu. V. Bromley and A. F. Dashdamirov). It is noted that "the national component of spiritual life is not merely a form in which common human, interethnic content is manifested--just as the realms and forms in which the international is manifested are not limited to national characteristics. National characteristics can be discovered in the very content of spiritual processes, while at the same time newly created forms of spiritual production, cultural organization, etc. can be -- and are -- international." (p 244).

In the dialectic of the national and international one discovers complexity, contradiction and diversity of forms of the social and spiritual development through which a definitive tendency toward international unity is being manifested ever more forcefully. The wealth and diversity of the national is not a side effect of the sociohistorical process, but rather a phenomenon created by the particular traits of the formation of humanity as a whole and by the natural movement of society from the isolation of its individual parts to integration and future assimilation, through the processes of their intercourse and convergence. Under the conditions of the present stage of socialism the national characteristics of peoples which reflect the most valuable facets of the socio-moral and cultural experience of their historical development do not serve to divide nations and nationalities, but rather to interconnect them and make them mutually complementary. Common Soviet culture includes all the wealth of the diverse national forms of culture and spiritual creativity of each of the USSR's peoples. At the same time, the national culture of each of those peoples is the bearer of common Soviet traits, forms and institutions of the cultural process. The common Soviet component is becoming the leading aspect in the development of each national culture.

In Chapter 9, "Conformances to Law in the Development of National Languages and the Perspective for Their Mutual Enrichment in a Mature Socialist Society" (M. I. Isayev), it is stated that, in the foreseeable future, national literary languages will develop and grow stronger, although to varying degrees (depending upon the number of speakers of a given language, forms of national state entities and other social factors). As a rule, the realm of their use will expand, and they themselves will be enriched through close interaction with each other. The common Soviet lexicological fund, the core of which will consist of sociopolitical and scientific-technical terminology, will expand. With the expansion of interethnic contacts and further convergence of nations the role of the Russian language will increase and its interaction with national languages be intensified. "One of the characteristic traits of the near future in terms of the linguistic development of peoples in the USSR could be a deepening and intensifying bilingualism which will originate in the very essence of the development of national relations" (p 272).

The concluding chapters are "Interethnic Relations Within the World Socialist Commonwealth" (F. T. Konstantinov and Yu. V. Bromley) and "Criticism of Bourgeois Concepts of National Relations Under Socialism" (E. A. Bagramov).

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CULTURE

KaSSR: AYTMATOV ON KHIRGHIZ, NEW NOVEL

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata QAZAQ ADEBIYETI in Kazakh on 10 October carries on pages 2-3 a 2,200-word interview with Shynghys Aytmatov, published under the rubric "On the Eve of Khirghiz Soviet Literature Days in Kazakhstan," entitled "Songs of Mountain and Steppe." The interview was recorded by Sherkhan Murtazayev, chief editor of QAZAQ ADEBIYETI, who also offers many of his own views on topics discussed.

Aytmatov and Murtazayev discuss, among other things, changes in the KiSSR capital of Frunze in recent years, the Khirghiz epic "Manas" (Manas) as a joint property of all the Turkic peoples, Khirghiz-Kazakh literary relations and Aytmatov's new novel recently serialized in NOVYY MIR. The interview is unusually strong in its assertion of the close relations of Kazakh and Khirghiz, including mention of the close physical proximity of the capitals of the two republics. Along these same lines, Aytmatov emphasizes the "Manas" as not just the national epic of the Khirghiz but of all the Turkic nationalities, especially the Kazakhs who play an important role in it. A discussion of future areas of possible literary cooperation, moreover, even includes the suggestion of publication of works by Khirghiz writers in the KaSSR since the KiSSR lacks the specialized literary presses of the KaSSR and thus the means to publish all the works that need publishing from Khirghiz writers.

Concerning Aytmatov's new novel, Aytmatov expressed pride that part has already appeared in Chinese translation while other translations into German, Finnish and English are underway. Discussion of the content of the novel, however, is introduced by Murtazayev with a long comment about the environmental deterioration of the Talas region which, according to the promises of unnamed "Academician," who became a hero of socialist labor for his promises, was to have been made into an Eden on earth, a green, flourishing paradise. Instead, Murtazayev laments, the land is now dead, with no water, plants or wildlife. Do not the "planners" realize, he asks, the effects that their "plans" are having upon the land?

Aytmatov answers that he began his new novel in response to a real incident in which he was offered Saiga Antelope meat in Sweden and told that the meat had come from Kazakhstan. There is nothing wrong with hunting, he emphasizes, it is part of human existence, but are we allowed, at the same time, to destroy the natural environment in our use of it? This, he concludes, is the question which he tries to answer in his novel.

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CSO: 1832/405

CULTURE

YOUNG KAZAKH FILM DIRECTORS IGNORANT OF OWN LANGUAGE, CULTURE

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata QAZAQ ADEBIYETI in Kazakh on 10 October carries on page 14 an 1,800-word article by Shakizada Quttayaqov, published under the rubric "Film," entitled "More Than a Passing Fancy." The article, subtitled "Thoughts After the Third Plenum of the Kazakhstan Cinematographers Union," is highly critical of the present generation of Kazakh directors who, in spite of many achievements and even international prizes in times past, tend to continue to produce, in the author's view, shallow works of little artistic merit. More specifically, Quttayaqov echoes complaints offered at the plenum that many young Kazakh directors simply do not know their mother tongues, cultures, and traditions. /6662

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SOCIAL ISSUES

OVCHINNIKOV, FROLOV ON SOCIAL ASPECTS OF 'ACCELERATION'

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 145-149

[Article by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences E. Volodin, scientific secretary, Social Sciences Section, Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars under the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "Scientific-Technical Progress: Theory and Practice of Acceleration"]

[Text] The Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars under the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences conducted an expanded meeting in Moscow on 19 May 1986. Problems associated with the role of science in accelerating the country's socioeconomic development on the basis of scientific-technical progress were discussed in light of documents of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The meeting was opened by Academician Yu. Ovchinnikov, chairman of the Central Council and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He noted that the whole system of seminars should be brought into full correspondence with the directives of the party congress. Seminars must be transformed into an effective form of communication between ideology and practice, between philosophy and life, into one of the instruments of accelerating scientific-technical progress.

Describing the complex international conditions in which science and technology are developing, Ovchinnikov emphasized that utilization of the accomplishments of scientific-technical progress is a great philosophical and political problem. Its solution requires a humanistic approach, and presupposes high professional and civic responsibility of scientists. Only under these conditions can the social and humanistic orientation of scientific-technical progress be ensured, and the undesirable consequences of such progress be averted. All variants of scientific-technical decisions must be considered and thoroughly substantiated, avoiding rash decisions. Science is undergoing major reconstruction, which should begin with fundamental research, with academy institutions. Scientific councils of the USSR Academy of Sciences should be authoritative collective organs with real power, capable of quite accurately determining the attained level of research and its main objectives and directions, rather than the social bodies they often are. The scientific community must continually excite the mind, and see that the

activities of state institutions would satisfy the requirements posed by the party and government, so that scientific developments could be introduced into practice efficiently and broadly.

Problems concerned with development of machine building as a key sector of the national economy were illuminated in the statement given by Academician K. Frolov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He raised a number of fundamental issues concerned with development of science and technology. The economic mechanism of scientific-technical progress and the financing of scientific-technical programs remain a bottleneck. A new "degree of freedom" must be found for research institutions, considering the large risk that collectives take when they begin work on major nontraditional problems.

The speaker went on to talk about the social responsibility of science. In order to realize the possibilities of scientific-technical progress while concurrently excluding all of its possible negative consequences absolutely, we need to recognize that there are no "minor" facts or "minor" variables today: Everything relates to a single whole, and nothing should be simplified or coarsened. All participants of the process beginning with scientific research and experimental design work and ending with production of new technology bear equal responsibility for it, including for its economic justification, for ensuring its dependability, and for diagnosing its work.

As Frolov emphasized, one of the most important functions of methodological seminars is to promote an understanding of the organic unity of science, to unify the efforts of scientists of academy centers, the higher school and sector institutes. Much is being done on behalf of such unification, but for the moment the successes are modest, and as a consequence we still encounter redundant research and insignificant research topics.

One other important problem is that of attracting talented young people to science. New forms of such encouragement which could accelerate maturation of young personnel and encourage their independence must be found. For example it would be useful to select and attract VUZ students to research in academy institutions as early as in their first year.

The USSR Academy of Sciences, Frolov concluded, must fundamentally restructure its work so that it could assume leadership in scientific-technical progress. Each person must clearly understand that the quality of his work is measured by the end result. The methodological seminars must be oriented on instilling this approach to scientific work.

USSR Academy of Sciences Corresponding Member I. Frolov examined important philosophical and social aspects of scientific-technical progress. He devoted special attention to the problem of alternatives in the development of scientific-technical progress. Our social system allows us to select the correct paths, to determine a humanistic strategy for scientific-technical progress, since socialism places priority on the fate of mankind and on the interests of society and the individual himself. The system provides for many things, but it cannot automatically guarantee everything associated with the development itself of scientific-technical progress and with the risk of embarking upon new technologies. What we need is better scientific and

theoretical substantiation of scientific-technical progress, and better support to it. Efforts by scientists to inform the public about the problems of scientific-technical progress, to explain its complexities and the alternatives it provides, and at the same time to explain its importance to mankind are no less important. And yet, there is still very little popular scientific literature devoted to the social, philosophical and ethical aspects of the modern scientific-technical revolution.

We need a new way of thinking, a new definition of science. This definition must provide for the inclusion of humanistic and cultural yardsticks, social criteria and the categories of Marxist-Leninist social science. Humanitarian culture must be the internal control mechanism of scientific enquiry. We must decisively surmount the approach in which socioeconomic components are treated as something accessory, as something which must be dealt with but which is not decisive. Every major scientific-technical project, whether it involves nuclear power engineering, or territorial redistribution of water resources, and so on, is a social problem, a social phenomenon.

Frolov substantiated the importance of developing social and philosophical research on scientific-technical progress, of adequately reflecting the problems of the philosophy of science and the philosophy of natural sciences in educational programs, and of significantly expanding the scale of the efforts to acquaint the public with the problems of scientific-technical progress.

Academician V. Sokolov, deputy chairman of the Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars, devoted his speech to the ecological problems of scientific-technical progress. He reached the conclusion that maintaining the environment at a level that is optimum for human life has become an acute global problem. In particular there is great concern over accumulation of chemical compounds by the human body that are detrimental to human health--especially those which may have an unfavorable influence on heredity.

The greater complexity of mutual relationships between man and nature is chiefly the result of extensive development of the latter. Because of continually growing concentration of production, utilization of resources by one production operation and its impact on the environment directly or indirectly harm other sectors of the economy. In the final analysis the quality of the environment worsens. An increasingly heavier burden is laid upon the production system, and the rate of economic growth slows down. The way to solve this problem is to establish fundamentally new relationships between human production activity and the environment.

Expansion and deepening of our knowledge of natural processes is allowing us to propose new production procedures which not only preserve but even improve the environment (with relatively small capital investments). Theoretical research and practical experience confirm the possibility and necessity of simultaneously developing scientific-technical progress, introducing intensive economic practices and optimizing the environment. But such optimization cannot occur on its own. Considerable planned efforts and deep scientific research are required. The need for effective international agreements, ones

which would ensure sensible use of the planet's resources, viewed as a common legacy of mankind, in close constructive interaction with states of the world community, is becoming ever clearer.

The problem of introducing inventions into production as a factor of accelerating scientific-technical progress were illuminated in the report given by I. Nayashkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries. In particular he emphasized the importance of deeply studying the social, philosophical, economic and legal aspects of scientific-technical progress, so as to reveal the causes behind obstacles to introducing innovations, to eliminate these causes and to debug the process of materializing scientific-technical accomplishments.

Academician N. Zhavoronkov illuminated problems concerned with full processing of raw materials on the basis of the latest procedures.

Scientific methodological support to study of the problems of scientific-technical progress in methodological seminars was the topic of the speech given by V. Stepanov, director of the All-Union Palace of Political Education under the CPSU Central Committee. He noted that one of the prerequisites of successfully solving the problems of accelerating scientific-technical progress is high teaching skills, which are formed through assimilation and creative application of the principles of Marxist-Leninist philosophy. Both social demand and the development itself of cognition are raising the need for philosophical generalization of the accomplishments of specific disciplines, and integration of the social, natural and technical sciences.

The speaker summarized the experience of studying the methodological problems of scientific-technical progress in different scientific centers of the country, and he described the principal scientific methodological and organizational problems and difficulties confronting the seminars. The greatest shortcoming in their work is the inability to relate the problems of a concrete science and practical participation of the collective in accelerating scientific-technical progress to the task of philosophical conceptualization of the laws and prospects of development of the science in the present stage.

The speaker proposed a number of forms and methods of increasing the level of activity of the seminar system, to include coordinating lesson plans in academy institutes, sector research centers and VUZs; conducting joint seminars attended by workers of scientific research institutes, VUZs and production enterprises; creating permanent seminars in scientific-technical associations and so on.

In his conclusion Stepanov emphasized the exceptional role played by leaders of methodological seminars. The more actively the leading and most respected scientists perform in this role, the more effectively the seminars will promote an increase in the professional, ideological and political level of scientists and instructors in the sciences.

The Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars adopted an expanded resolution on this issue. Soviet scientists, the resolution states,

interpret the conception, developed by the CPSU, of accelerating our country's socioeconomic development on the basis of scientific-technical progress as an expanded program of action. Problems concerned with implementing this conception must occupy an important place in the plans of methodological seminars. The relationship of the problems of scientific-technical progress and the scientist's activities directly involved with this area to the country's socioeconomic development and to the political decisions the party adopted as its program must be revealed in these lessons.

The party associates successful completion of the tasks proposed by the 27th CPSU Congress with raising the role of the human factor and developing creative initiative in all spheres of social life, including in science. The seminars are obligated to make a consistent effort to indoctrinate scientists ideologically and politically, to shape their scientific philosophy and to increase the level of their activity. In this case it is fundamentally important to treat instilling civic responsibility and patriotism as a function that is inseparable from practical participation of every scientific worker in creative labor for the good of the people. By activating the role of the human factor in science, we should be able to promote preferential development of fundamental research, the fastest possible implementation of scientific ideas in the national economy and maintenance of the lead of Soviet science and technology in the principal directions of scientific-technical progress.

Anticommunism and anti-Sovietism must be consistently subjected to substantiated criticism in seminar lessons, and the antiscientific nature of bourgeois ideology and the groundlessness of scientific and antiscientific conceptions which render the role of science and technology in the society's development absolute or reject its role must be revealed.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION CENTER ACTIVITIES

Moscow OBNHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 162-167

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences P. Tsapenko, INION, USSR Academy of Sciences: "The 10th Anniversary of the International Social Science Information System "]

[Text] The 11th Session of the MISON [Council of the International Social Science Information System] of the Socialist Countries (1) (Frankfurt-on-Oder, 22-28 June 1986) summarized the results of 10 years' work of the MISON.

On behalf of the academies of sciences of their countries, MISON select national organ leaders S. Gabrovska (Bulgaria), D. Rozha (Hungary), Khoang Vi Nam (Vietnam), M. Krauze (GDR), Sh. Batmunkh (Mongolia), A. Gromek (Poland), V. Vinogradov (USSR) and I. Zagradil (Czechoslovakia) expressed their satisfaction with the successes achieved in development of this direction of multilateral cooperation among scientists of the socialist fraternity. Cooperation helped to upgrade the quality, technical level and effectiveness of work with scientific information, and to increase its contribution to development of the social sciences.

A report on the results and prospects for development of the MISON was given by Academician V. Vinogradov, the leader of its chief organ--the Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences (INION) of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He noted that the members of the system had carried out considerable organizational work, scientific research and planning which made it possible to complete practically all of the principal measures that were planned.

International coordination of information processing was organized with the purpose of eliminating redundancy in the selection, procurement and scientific processing of literature. Joint information publications are being published. New forms of services based on the use of modern computers, communication resources and resources for duplicating and microfilming text are being introduced.

In 10 years, over 150 publications bearing the MISON emblem were published, to include 62 multilateral collections of abstracts on important problems in the

social sciences. Around 20 works are now being prepared for publication. The MISON's principal publications are devoted to the theory and practice of socialist construction, to the origin and development of the world socialist system and to the struggle of states in the socialist fraternity for peace and national security.

Scientific conferences put on by the MISON have great significance to improving information activities. Three such conferences were held: "The Role of Scientific Information in Development of the Social Sciences in the Socialist Countries and the Objectives of the MISON's Development" (Varna, 1978), "Problems of the Effectiveness of Information Activities" (Tallinn, 1982), "The Role of Scientific Information in the Socioeconomic and Ideological Functions of the Social Sciences" (Budapest, 1985).

A significant amount of work was done to coordinate procurement of foreign literature with the purpose of satisfying the needs of social scientists to the fullest possible degree. A card catalogue of foreign periodicals received by MISON members was created. The select national organs of East Germany, the USSR and Czechoslovakia have compiled alphabetic indexes of these periodicals.

Stage-by-stage introduction of an automated information system (AIS) into the MISON was started in 1980. Problems concerned with software and with linguistic and technical support are being solved jointly. Creation of the AIS has become one of the most important objectives of the MISON.

The report demonstrated the important role played by the MISON Council as the system's supreme executive organ. It determines the basic directions of joint work, and the specific forms and methods of the latter. In its annual meetings the council analyzes the results of work done, generalizes the accumulated collective experience and examines important theoretical problems associated with raising the role of scientific information in research.

The speaker noted that all academies of sciences participating in the system have made an enormous contribution to its development. Their 10 years of experience in cooperation in social science information demonstrated the viability and fruitfulness of the international principles laid at the basis of the MISON's activities.

Vinogradov described the new objectives posed before specialists in information science in light of documents of recent congresses of the communist and workers parties of fraternal countries. As we know, the congresses emphasized the growing role of information in all spheres of the life of Soviet society. The system of scientific information in the social sciences is called upon to use its unique resources and methods to help scientists in the humanities to respond efficiently to the needs of life, and develop substantiated forecasts and constructive recommendations for practical needs.

The understanding that information activities have not only a scientific but also a political and ideological nature, Vinogradov said, must be concretely embodied within the practical work of the MISON. This pertains to determining the problems to be addressed by joint publications, to selecting the

literature they reflect, to analyzing the latter, to selecting the forms in which the materials are presented, to editing these materials--in a word, to all information work. Proposals for accelerating socioeconomic development of socialist society must be illuminated to an increasingly greater degree in the course of this work. The main objectives of the MISON are to tie information activities organically in with the new stage of socialist construction and with further deepening of cooperation among countries of the socialist fraternity, to provide assistance in analyzing the theoretical wealth contained in documents of fraternal parties and in scientifically generalizing practical experience accumulated in the course of solving new problems, to enhance integration of information, and to assimilate and fully utilize the potential of modern technical resources in this area.

V. Khisamutdinov (USSR), chairman of a permanent working group formed to develop the MISON's AIS, described the results of the group's activities in the last decade to the participants of the meeting. The scientific conception of the AIS, its detail and contractor designs and procedural documentation on the principal production processes were developed; the information net of the MISON and a centralized automated data base (TsADB), which is now utilized widely by select national organs, were created; preparations were made for introduction of national literature into the MISON TsADB, and the literature was introduced; research was conducted on the information demand in the social sciences.

Delegates from the countries represented at the meeting took part in the discussion of the results and prospects of the MISON's activities.

D. Rozha, general director of the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, noted that the MISON's activities are especially important to the Hungarian Select National Organ in two aspects--assistance in scientific research, and assistance in disseminating scientific knowledge. Participation in the MISON's AIS opens up new possibilities for information support to social scientists. But the absence of a specific communications channel is an obstacle to planning and organizing industrial exploitation of the MISON's AIS in Hungary. A report by I. Takshash (Hungary) on the work experience of the information association created in 1985 evoked considerable interest among participants of the meeting. This association is the focal point of problem-oriented and reference data bases of a number of the country's scientific institutions.

The need for developing a long-range forecast of development and improvement of the MISON was substantiated by M. Krauze, director of the Information Center for Social Sciences of the GDR Academy of Sciences. In his opinion it would be desirable for the MISON to increase the proportion of analytical-synthetic information within the total volume of publications, to create reference data bases more aggressively and to widen the services of the MISON's AIS beyond computer bibliographic information services.

In the words of the director of the Scientific Information Center of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, S. Gabrovska, owing to their participation in the MISON, Bulgarian specialists were able to raise the level of information work in the social sciences noticeably. The Scientific Information Center of

the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences created a smooth-running system for preparing, publishing and publicizing MISON publications, which are sent to 104 scientific organizations and institutions in the country. Special attention is being devoted to development of the MISON's AIS. In 1985 the MISON TsADB was used by 450 individual and collective users in almost 700 selective information distribution profiles. More than 4,000 data base searches [retrospravki] were prepared. Gabrovska described creation of a regional user network in Bulgaria and the prospects for introducing all subsystems of the AIS and for wide use of microcomputers to obtain information from the MISON's TsADB.

Khoang Vi Nam, the director of Vietnam's Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences, reported establishment of satellite access to the MISON's TsADB with the active assistance of the INION of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Vietnam's Select National Organ provides the system's main organ with information on national literature, and it has joined the effort to procure foreign publications.

Mongolia attaches important significance to publicizing, disseminating and utilizing information publications of the MISON, noted Sh. Batmunkh, scientific secretary of the Department of Scientific Information of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. He acquainted his colleagues with plans for creating a national information system in the social sciences, and offered proposals on improving exchange of primary sources among the MISON's select national organs.

A. Gromek, director of the Scientific Information Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences, pointed out that the MISON's activities are acquiring increasingly more important ideological significance as the duel between the two social systems intensifies. In light of directives of the Polish United Workers Party, the Scientific Information Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences believes the following to be its main objectives: attracting a wide range of Polish scientists to participation in the MISON's activities; utilizing the possibilities of modern computers to improve work with information; improving coordination of the procurement of scientific capital, including acquisition of terminals for remote data retrieval from the MISON's TsADB; increasing the proportion of analytical and synthetic materials within the total volume of information publications; introducing the MISON's AIS more actively.

Information support to social scientists of Czechoslovakia based on the MISON's TsADB received a high grade from the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, reported I. Zagradil, director of the Fundamental Library and Scientific Information Center of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. Examples of effective use of this information were presented. Czechoslovakia's select national organ conducted considerable analytical work with the objective of appraising periodical publications of countries not in the MISON. This kind of analysis is important to organizing international division of labor involved in the processing of scientific literature within the MISON. Czechoslovakia's select national organ is activating its efforts to support transmission of information to the MISON's TsADB via a communication channel.

The MISON Council supported the principal premises and conclusions of the accountability report, and it gave its approval to the work done by the main organ and by the select national organs to implement the MISON's plans. It was emphasized at the meeting that this international system is strengthening cooperation among the information centers of the socialist countries on the basis of a common coordinated program of activity. The system has recommended itself as an effectively operating, promising form of multilateral communication. The MISON is providing information support to research being carried out as a part of the Long-Range Program of Multilateral Cooperation Among Socialist Countries in the Social Sciences. It was noted with satisfaction that the main items of the MISON's plan for 1981-1985 were completed.

The participants of the meeting examined the plan for the MISON's development in 1987. M. Gapochka, deputy director of the INION of the USSR Academy of Sciences, gave a report on this question. The draft of the plan was prepared on the basis of the 1986-1990 five-year plan for the MISON's development, and it was adjusted in correspondence with documents of recent congresses of communist and workers parties of the fraternal countries. Remarks and amendment proposals of the select national organs and recommendations of the permanent work group concerned with development of the MISON AIS were accounted for in the plan. A more uniform distribution of responsibilities among the select national organs was foreseen with regard to previous experience and the real possibilities of the system's participants.

There are plans for preparing and publishing a series of information materials in 1987 analyzing research conducted by social scientists of the MISON countries on problems posed by congresses of fraternal parties.

Publication of analytical surveys and abstract collections in the following series will be continued: "History of the Great October and Subsequent Socialist Revolutions," "Laws Governing Economic Development of Real Socialism," "The Modern World Revolutionary Process and the International Workers Movement," "Creative Development and Application of Marxist-Leninist Theory to Research on the Problems of Social Science and Practice," "Problems in the Struggle for Peace and Solution of the Global Problems of Modern Times," "Problems of World and Regional Historical and Cultural Development," "Problems of Scientific Information in the Social Sciences."

There are plans for initiating work on the draft of a long-range forecast of the MISON's development (to the year 2010). Procedures for compiling bibliographical literature indices and the indices themselves on 12 topics will be prepared. These topics include the socioeconomic problems of development of socialist society, economic and scientific-technical cooperation among CEMA countries, paths of development of the agroindustrial complex, the struggle for peace, disarmament and international security, criticism of modern bourgeois ideology, reformism and revisionism, and others.

Research on the MISON AIS will enjoy further development. The general objective of participants in the automated system is to ensure successful preparation of the first generation of the AIS for industrial operation in all MISON countries. Considering that national literature will be transferred

from select national organs to the MISON TsADB on an extensive decentralized basis in the near future, the plan lays special emphasis on teaching specialists the procedures for processing publications, and on developing a single approach to reflecting the contents of a document by linguistic support resources.

Participants of the meeting of the MISON Council listened to and discussed a scientific report by M. Krauze titled "Socioeconomic and Ideological Problems of Accelerating Scientific-Technical Progress, and the Objectives of Information Activity." He analyzed the ways and means of raising the effectiveness of information activities in the social sciences in a time of accelerated scientific-technical progress. These activities must assume the form of research, and they must be interdisciplinary. They must be capable of strengthening interaction between social scientists and representatives of natural and technical disciplines. The entire complex of philosophical, sociological, economic, legal, psychological, ideological and other problems concerned with the creation and use of new equipment and technology must be kept within view of the system of information in the social sciences. The responsibility of those who accumulate, process and disseminate information, including their ideological responsibility, is growing considerably today. Together with representatives from different social sciences, specialists in information and documentation must actively study their influence upon the scientific creativity and creative energy of researchers. Considering that scientific-technical progress is accelerating, the requirements on the qualifications of information specialists, on the availability of the latest equipment and on software provided to information services are growing significantly (2).

In its meeting, the council generalized its experience in preparing abstracts and literature reviews, which are being written in several countries for MISON publications. The need for raising the effectiveness of this work by selecting materials more carefully in accordance with the planned subject matter of collections and abstract journals, for furnishing these materials efficiently and for having the select national organs maintain strict control over these processes was emphasized. It was deemed necessary to increase scientific and organizational support in this direction of joint activity by preparing the corresponding guidelines.

The council heard a report from Ye. Chizhov, a representative of the International Scientific Research Institute of Problems in Administration, on the principal directions of this institute's activities and the prospects of its cooperation with the MISON. G. Solovyev, scientific secretary of the European Center for Coordination of Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (the Vienna Center), also spoke at the meeting. He described the experience of the center's joint work with the MISON within the framework of the "European Cooperation in Information and Documentation in the Social Sciences" program, and he illustrated the possibilities for further expansion of this work.

Two collections published just before the meeting in Frankfurt-on-Oder aroused considerable interest among members of the council: "Mezhdunarodnaya informatsionnaya sistema po obshchestvennym naukam sotsialisticheskikh stran:

itogi i perspektivy deyatel'nosti (k 10-letiyu MISON)" [The International Information System in the Social Sciences of Socialist Countries: Results and Prospects of Its Activities (on the 10th Anniversary of the MISON)] (Moscow, 1986) and "Rol nauchnoy informatsii v osushchestvlenii sotsialno-ekonomicheskoy i ideologicheskoy funktsiy obshchestvennykh nauk" [The Role of Scientific Information in the Socioeconomic and Ideological Functions of the Social Sciences] (Budapest, 1986, in Russian). The latter contains materials of the MISON's third scientific conference.

It was decided to hold the next, the 12th meeting of the MISON Council in Bratislava in May-June 1987. The agenda for this meeting was approved. It includes, in particular, the theoretical report "Problems of Man in Socialist Society: The Tasks of Scientific Information in Light of Decisions of Fraternal Party Congress."

FOOTNOTES

1. For information on activities of the MISON, see OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI, No 3, 1981, pp 163-168; No 1, 1985, pp 171-174.--Editor's note.
2. The text of M. Krauze's report and statements made by the participants during the report's discussion will be published in the GDR in Russian.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

IMPACT OF 'DIRECT SOCIAL RELATIONS' ON ECONOMY, SOCIETY

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 25-39

[Article by Anatoliy Pokrytan, doctor of economic sciences, professor and director of the political economics department of the Odessa Institute of the National Economy: "Direct Social Relations in the Economic Structure of Socialism"]

[Text] A. K. Pokrytan is a specialist in the political economics of socialism and in the methodology of research in political economics. This article is based on a chapter from the monograph "Ekonomicheskaya struktura sotsializma: funktsionirovaniye i razvitiye" [Economic Structure of Socialism: Function and Development], Moscow, "Ekonomika", 1985.

Improvement of socialist production relations, the control system and management methods requires deep study of the society's economic structure and the ways in which the elements of this structure communicate with each other. This analysis presupposes that we first clarify the essence of the structure's integral operations.

To describe the system of production relations of a given method of production means revealing the economic laws determining its existence and development. Were it not for the fact that we still encounter attempts at examining economic phenomena in isolation in the literature devoted to systematizing the categories of the political economics of socialism, we would not have had to recall this basic premise of the economic theory of Marxism.

Despite the fact that the main methodological principles of examining a system of production relations were formulated long ago, economic forms are often studied in isolation from one another. When this approach is taken, the outward manifestations of the developing economic structure of socialism become the object of research, rather than categorical definitions of this structure. On their own, these manifestations do not provide an impression of the laws governing the existence and development of socialism. We will avoid scholastic debates and definition games only if we perceive all levels of the system of socialist production relations through the prism of the economic relations which determine its specific nature. We are essentially talking about successive implementation of the materialistic principle of the material

unity of all economic forms. Only by looking at the entire system of production relations in the plane of material definitions can we understand the laws governing its development and existence.

The history of political economics has confirmed this premise. The difference between the materialistic and the vulgar positivistic approach to analyzing bourgeois society has consistently lain in what is defined as the basis for the unity of economic phenomena. Looking at the outward unity of diverse reality, bourgeois political economics was unable to create a consistent theoretical system. As its greatest accomplishment, A. Smith and D. Ricardo defined labor as the substance of value. However, the classics of bourgeois political economics were unable to analyze value as something internally unified irrespective of the different variants in which and through which it manifests itself at the surface of bourgeois society. Marx was the first to formulate a truly scientific definition of labor as the substance of value. It was he who demonstrated that all economic forms of capitalist relations originate from a single substance--abstract labor.

The universality of this approach to analyzing any system of production relations is not determined by some kind of formal logical or purely cognitive characteristics (there are no characteristics of this sort, nor can there be any). Recognition of the universal necessity for analyzing a system of production relations on the basis of the economic relations determining its unique historical features is a product of the very essence of the materialistic method. It would be impossible to be a Marxist and reject the material unity of economic forms. This is precisely why scientific cognition proceeds from isolating this substance of the system of the given production organism to describing the diverse variants through which it works. This substance itself is a most abstract but, in fact, existing universal form of a particular system of production relations, a form of relationships between its elements.

Political economics perceives this form of universal definition as the underlying relationship of this means of production, as the form of its genetic basis. Therefore this underlying relationship is the genetic basis of the system of production relations, one which contains within itself the laws of the system's development in simple and general form. Being the sole definition of the economic structure of society, the underlying relationship includes within itself the universal definition of this structure, and it rises to the level of a universal essence. Analysis of this essence is precisely what creates the conditions which allow us to understand the laws governing formation and movement of the system of production relations.

It would be simply impossible to consider the content of the substantial unity of the system of relations pertaining to the communist means of production apart from the relationship of its genetic basis (the underlying relationship) to other more-concrete relationships, by simply isolating these other relationships from their basis. After all, the underlying relationship serves as a genetic basis namely because it permeates through the entire system of the given society's relations, and unfolds within it. Therefore unless we clarify at least the basic categorical block of the system of production relations (in capitalism for example this would be the logical "commodities-

money-capital" chain), we cannot arrive at a description of any completeness of the material basis of the means of production. Solution of this problem in application to socialism also presupposes deriving a block of categories. This would be the most persuasive evidence that a given relationship is in fact an underlying category.

The premise that direct social relations between individuals is the underlying relationship of socialism has been stated before. Looking at the specific content of this premise, we find that it means the following in its most general form: Appropriation, and not alienation, of certain essential forces of individuals is the means of communication inherent to this system, and this means of communication serves as the prerequisite for interaction between these individuals, for their overall process of life.

While material relationships are inherent to individuals whose social life is still in a stage of development, direct social relations are typical of individuals with a fully developed social life, inasmuch as the individuals are related not through the movement of factors separate from them and standing in opposition to them (labor, products and so on), but rather by means of personalities, which together appropriate the entire set of processes, sides and forms of their own activity. Therefore, direct social relations are in fact a form of the universal basis of a fundamentally new form of social wealth, one which exists as the wealth of the personal forces and resources of an individual undergoing constant development and enrichment.

What concrete characteristics do direct social relations, viewed as the genetic basis of socialism, possess? In their developed form they presuppose confirmation of cooperative labor on a national scale, such that the labor process embraces the entire society. This is expressed in the fact that the entire society becomes the principal agent of the economic process (the social production process is organized through the resources of the society and in its interests). It is on this basis that the labor of each separate member of society is directly included into aggregate social labor without preliminary transformation of the product into the form of a universal equivalent (that is, without its formal metamorphosis, in the course of which the latent social nature of labor reveals its membership to the aggregate labor of the society), and that control, centralized on the scale of the whole society, is exercised over production on the basis of optimum consideration of social needs and social resources.

Thus social production has creation of a socially useful product as its most general motive of all of the society's production activity. Each individual outlay of labor exists as a form of concretely universal labor. It stands to reason that all of this presupposes that we completely surmount all social differences in the nature of labor--differences not only between mental and physical labor, and between industrial and agrarian labor, but also in the forms of activity (productive, nonproductive). As a result we arrive at the aggregate activity of all members of the society--activity which is directly included in the vital activities of each member and which forms the main content of these activities.

Such in my opinion are the most significant characteristics of direct production relations when we consider the latter in their developed state. They are a more concrete characteristic of labor viewed as the first necessity of life. Therefore the communist means of production, when considered from the aspect of its substance, is mainly a socioeconomic system. The direct social relations of production (or what is the same thing, the direct social relationship of production) are predominantly social relations. Herein lies the qualitative and historical uniqueness of these relations. Their function may be described as reproduction of the social structure of society without any kind of mediation.

If on one hand a developed social structure forms the principal content of communist organization of social relations, then on the other hand this makes sense only because direct social relationships are its genetic basis. Emphasizing this fact, Marx noted: "Universally developed individuals, whose social relations are their own collective relations in addition to being subordinated to their own collective control, are a product of history, and not nature" (1). In other words direct social relations arise and confirm themselves not as a product of nature but as a product of history. They replace the material relationships which precede them and which prepare the conditions of social life they require.

Attempts are often made to refute the premise that direct social relations are the genetic basis of socialism by saying that in "Das Kapital" Marx analyzes not the substance of value--abstract labor--itself, but commodities. In fact, Marx begins his analysis of bourgeois society's system of production relations not with a characterization of abstract labor as the substance of value but rather with an examination of the product of labor expressed in the form of value. But there is nothing surprising in this: It would have been more surprising if he had tried to examine abstract labor apart from expressions of value. As we know, such attempts were often undertaken by various economists, and they were unable to offer anything new. The answer to this question lies in the nature itself of substance. Abstract labor cannot have any form of expression (existence) other than that of value. This is precisely why Marx analyzes it in this highly simple but sole realistic form. Commodities are the objective, material substratum of abstract labor. As far as socialism is concerned, the sole possible expression of substance in this case could be only a certain social form of the individual, of an agent of direct social relations.

One distinguishing feature of direct social relations is thus that they are universal relations, because they embrace not only the forms of economic activity of people but also all other possible spheres of their social activity, inasmuch as the latter are an expression of human activity. Developed direct social relations consequently presuppose achieving complete socioeconomic equalization of these forms, assertion of their social equivalence, which is possible only when all of the differences between the forms of labor, between the spheres of social production, between productive and nonproductive activity and so on are overcome.

Developed direct social relations presuppose not only optimum satisfaction of social needs, but also their conscious, premeditated formation with regard for

the personal qualities of each member of the society; these relations allow each member to develop in those directions which correspond to his personal interests. This is the highest level of society's control over its own life.

Direct social relations also presuppose a qualitatively new relationship between society and the environment. This relationship is characterized not only by conservation and reproduction of the resources of the environment, but also its modification in relation to standards corresponding most closely to the conditions of individual development (this is a process of humanization of the environment).

These points characterize the most significant traits of direct social relations viewed in their mature state, insofar as they can be determined on the basis of concepts within our means, on the basis of a consideration of the basic trends in development of modern social relations. This definition is essentially prognostic in nature. The distinguishing features of direct social relations mentioned above are also reproduced to one degree or another in other conceptions of the underlying relationship.

In fact, no matter what point of view we take, this definition reflects the real direct social relations of producers inherent to socialism. When we take the point of view of national property, it reflects direct social relationships between members of the society pertaining to the objective conditions of their productive activity and its results. These same relations directly constitute the form of the social product. They determine the basic content of planning, inasmuch as only the latter can be the means of existence and development of the direct social relations of associated producers in their sum total, an immanent form of their implementation. Different theoretical positions concerning the genetic basis of socialism represent only different facets of the sum total of those characteristics, which as a system embrace different aspects of direct social relations viewed as a social form of all relations of production, distribution, exchange and consumption. Direct social relations--or what is essentially the same thing, the direct social relationships between producers--are relations unique to socialism, ones which appear in the total system of socialist relations as concretely universal relations embracing all significant aspects of this system.

These relations are not at all a formal abstraction. They are reality in its simplest terms, they are a most common economic fact that reveals itself daily and hourly in the life of socialist society. There is no phenomenon of economic reality that is simpler and more common in socialist society's system of relations. They are the most elementary factor of concrete reality. This is why we can assert that these relations are precisely what make up the genetic basis of socialism.

Development of the genetic basis of the system of production relations is a process reflecting formation of the mature communist structure. This development occurs on the basis of interplay between the internal contradictions of this structure. Direct social relations, which are the substance of all economic forms, develop into an integral construct owing to development of their own internal contradictions, adequate namely to these relations. This is why clarifying the laws governing formation of the

economic structure of socialism presupposes analysis of its contradictions. This analysis allows us to determine the essence of transformation of direct social relations from a condition underlying development of the communist means of production to being the result itself of this means of production (2).

In the literature, the laws of socialist development are sometimes looked at from the plane of development of a historically transitory form of contradictions between direct social relations and the vestiges (elements) of commodity and financial relations. As a consequence analysis of internal laws is substituted by an examination of purely superficial forms and phenomena. The vulnerability of these kinds of theoretical constructs becomes all the more obvious. This is why attempts were made in recent years to transform these external forms into internal contradictions inherent to the genetic basis itself of socialism. The question as to the dual nature of direct social labor was posed in one such attempt. It was ignored in this case that direct social labor stands in direct opposition to the dual nature of labor. The assertion that under socialism both concrete and abstract labor are different forms of direct social labor is the result of confusing different forms of production relations and their corresponding scientific concepts, which were theoretically developed as a way to designate these forms.

The desire to "embed" a dual nature of labor into the economic system of the communist means of production, irrespective of the stage under consideration, leads not only to theoretical errors but also to negative practical consequences. The act of abstracting oneself from differences in concrete forms of human labor is not a process which goes on in the consciousness of theorists; instead, it is a completely objective mechanism--and therefore one independent of any kind of cognitive process--of reducing different forms of labor to something abstractly universal--that is, to labor in general. This reduction occurs not at all because an abstractly universal entity exists and can exist only as a property, a trait or an aspect of a particular entity. In this case such reduction would be simply impossible. In the system of commodity and capitalist production, that which is abstractly universal itself exists as something particular. This happens in this situation precisely because labor and working time become the universal basis of wealth. And every concrete form of labor can proclaim itself to be the creator of some element of wealth only to the extent that it reveals itself to be not a concrete form of labor but as labor in general, as universal human labor.

Thus it would seem that every individual form of concrete labor is socially nonequivalent to any other concrete form of labor. Different forms of labor are found to be socially equivalent only when they are reduced to socially meaningful labor; abstract human labor plays the role of the latter. Consequently abstraction from differences in concrete forms of labor occurs not because all forms of labor are different but because they are socially different. No producer of a commodity knows, or can know directly, whether by his labor he has created an item of social wealth--an element of the society's aggregate product, or whether he has created a thing which is not needed by the society, and consequently which has no social value.

Thus the act of abstracting from concrete forms of labor is essentially a social process. Abstract labor is not a physiological but a social characteristic of labor, even though it exists owing to expenditure of physiological energy. However, this expenditure acquires social significance and social content only under certain sociohistoric conditions, and namely under the conditions of commodity production. Reduction of labor to an abstractly universal form is a necessary form of movement of the contradiction between private and social labor. It can exist only so long as this contradiction is maintained.

When we confirm the existence of direct social labor, we impart social definition to labor, interpreted in its useful, purposeful form. In this case the specific social function of labor simply ceases to exist at all. When it is accepted that labor is directly social, all rational grounds for the existence of the category of abstract social labor, which is a means of expression of its latently social nature, disappear. Thus abstract labor is a category of the system of relations within which the labor of each producer appears directly as private labor. The category of abstract labor is absent from the system of relations of direct social labor for some reason other than because the process of creating products is freed of labor expenditures in the physiological sense.

This assertion may seem simply an absurdity inasmuch as the concepts of expedient labor and expenditure of labor in the physiological sense are general definitions of all labor processes, and in this aspect they are general factors of labor. But the dual nature of labor comes from something entirely different. Expenditure of labor in the sense of expending physiological energy characterizes abstract labor as an economic concept only when certain production relations arise and function between economically independent producers as a result of this expenditure of labor in general.

In conditions where labor bears a direct social nature, we do not need to reduce the labor of every producer to an abstractly universal form in order to express the social significance of each producer's labor, because in its expedient form, it appears as social labor, as direct socially meaningful labor. Its social nature manifests itself in the form of concrete labor. This is precisely why it is characterized as directly social labor. Confirmation of the directly social nature of labor does not of course mean that labor is no longer expended in the physical sense to create products. However, it does cease to be an expression of a particular production relationship. It remains a factor of the simple process of labor, and it does not acquire a specific social form.

Striving to justify retention of the "dual nature" of expenditure of labor in its directly social form, some authors argue that even in these conditions, different concrete expenditures of labor must be made quantitatively comparable. It stands to reason that the quality and quantity categories and their general dialectical relationship retain their significance in all cases, and consequently in the conditions of direct social relations as well. But to make this relationship a basis for justifying the dual nature of labor

expressed in its directly social form means essentially to take a stand directly opposing dialectics, inasmuch as the latter always require concrete analysis of a concrete situation.

When we talk about the dual nature of labor--that is, about concrete and abstract labor, we imply not simply the relationship between the quantitative and qualitative aspects of labor, but rather concrete labor and labor in general, each of which possesses its own quantitative and qualitative definitions. Concrete labor reduces to abstract labor not because it does not have its own quantitative aspect. This aspect of it is represented by work time. Were the work time of each producer taken separately to be socially uniform (this would happen in the case where the producer's labor is directly social in nature--that is, where the concrete expenditure of the labor of each producer appears in its own right, without the mediation of exchange, as a proportionate share of the total social work time), reduction of concrete labor to universal human abstract labor would make no sense.

The problem of reducing concrete forms of labor to a universally abstract form, and consequently reducing individual work time to a qualitatively defined form of expenditure of concrete labor to universal work time, arises because only in this way can the labor of an individual be included in aggregate labor--that is, in universal labor, and only in this way does expenditure of individual concrete labor become socially meaningful and the product of this expenditure becomes an inherent element of the society's aggregate product.

Consequently what we are dealing with here is not the relationship between quantity and quality in general, but the relationship between socially defined quantity and socially defined quality. What we have here is not simply a bookkeeping operation but a socially defined calculation operation--that is, a procedure having a specifically social definition. But in the case where the directly social nature of labor is confirmed, this relationship simply loses its social meaning, inasmuch as from the very beginning, expenditure of labor in concrete form would signify expenditure of labor in concrete-universal form. Describing the essence of these changes, Marx wrote: "In order for money to be universal, the labor of an individual should be universal labor rather than specific labor from the very beginning--that is, it should enter into the picture as an element of universal production from the very beginning.... The quantitative nature of production would make the product collective, universal, from the very beginning" (3).

Thus the directly social nature of labor and its dual nature are exclusive opposites, which is what Marx said. It stands to reason that all of this does not mean that differences between individual and socially necessary labor no longer exist in the case of the directly social form of labor.

In the case of directly private labor, differences between individual and socially necessary labor are a manifestation of the contradiction between concrete and abstract labor, between private and social labor. Individual labor is the expenditure of labor by an individual producer to produce a certain useful result. But if this result turns out to be beyond the limits of the social norm, it ceases to be a bearer of social usefulness, and

therefore the labor expended on its creation also ceases to be socially meaningful--that is, necessary to the society in regard to the given structure and volume of social demand. Thus social demand acts as the yardstick of expenditures. The amount of labor that the society can expend to produce a given useful result must be equivalent to how necessary this useful result is in satisfying a social demand. And it is only within the limits of this overall expenditure of work time that individual expenditures of labor are commensurate with socially necessary expenditures.

The contradiction between private and social labor may be stated as follows: Before it is possible to compare individual and socially necessary work time, labor must demonstrate its social meaningfulness--that is, its product must first become a necessary inherent element of the society's aggregate product. This problem does not exist in the case of labor with a directly social nature because the entire volume of labor expended, and embodied in a certain mass of useful results, is directly socially meaningful, and therefore all of it represents socially necessary expenditures of labor. Within this overall mass of labor, however, there may be differences in the expenditures per unit of the same useful result.

Considered from the aspect of their own content, direct social relations are a form of social relations between individuals having the following characteristics: First of all, these relations have attained the level of their universal development; second, the mutual relationships between individuals are mediated by neither personal nor material dependencies, and they exist and function as relations between the individuals themselves; third, the main parameters of this form of communication between individuals are consciously established by the individuals themselves with regard for the attained level of maturity of their material conditions. Only the individual can be the direct material bearer of such relations. This is precisely why relations into which individuals enter between each other in the course of production of the conditions of their social life are the elementary form of expression of direct social relations. This form of expression is the product of the very nature of direct social relations: After all, the latter are nothing more than direct relations between individuals. Individuals entering into them are the material bearers of significant qualities of the same social system--of all of its qualities moreover, of the entire wealth of social relations. But this wealth can express itself in different ways in each individual, inasmuch as the individual is an isolated subject of direct social relations.

That which is general appears as a property, aspect or characteristic of that which is individual. Development and enrichment of the individual is a means of development of the general, but only as its opposite, as development of the individual, the specific. Consequently the poles of this unity of opposites would be represented in this case by different concrete bearers of direct social relations, because their common social essence assumes the form of a specific essence or, more accurately, an aspect of the given specific essence. It stands to reason that we should be concerned here not with asserting these universal definitions of the form of expression (manifestation) of direct social relations, but rather with describing this form in its direct manifestation.

The idea that the individual is the starting point in the economic theory of the communist means of production has already been discussed in the Soviet literature. A significant shortcoming of this conception (despite its productiveness) is the fact that no distinction is made between the content of economic relations constituting communism--direct social relations--and the form of their material bearer--the individual. On his own, without any further definitions, the individual can do little to increase our understanding of the essence of the economic structure of socialism (in the same way as, for example, consumer value cannot on its own provide an impression of the value-based form of relations embodied within a commodity).

When we analyze the forms in which direct social relations manifest themselves in relations between individuals, we must do more than simply assert the fact that individuals are the material bearers of these relations. We need to determine precisely the quality in which these individuals act as such. In the same way that an individual commodity is an embodiment of value only in terms of being a certain materialized particle of socially divided labor, and not a product of concrete activity, individuals act as bearers of direct social relations not in their biological but in their social essence. It may be argued of course that individuals have always had social definition. This is in fact so. But in this case we are talking not about social definition in general, but definition of individuals as bearers of their own relationships. In other words while in all precommunist formations the social definition of the society's members is expressed by something different from their activity, under socialist conditions the person appears for the first time as an active individual whose social definition is expressed by way of his direct activity. Emphasizing this circumstance, Marx noted that under the conditions of the communist means of production, labor "is a form of exertion of an individual acting not as a force of nature that is trained to function in a particular way, but rather as a subject who functions in production not as a purely naturally evolved form, or as an individual actively controlling all forces of nature" (4).

Thus the active form of individuals is precisely what serves as the material expression of the unique features of direct social relations. The form of activity of individuals appears as the form of manifestation of their own relationships to the extent that direct labor ceases to be the basis of material production, and every person manifests himself in his activity as a direct inherent element of society as a whole. The material activity of people becomes not an external expediency but a form of their existence, a form of manifestation of all of their vital forces and potentials.

This is precisely why, for example, the activity of individual A is directly social activity. To establish its social meaningfulness, no mediating links are required; it is inherently social action. However, while it coincides with directly social activity in its social nature, the inherent material activity of individual A cannot coincide with it in volume, namely because this is the activity of individual A. After all, all of the other forms of activity of the infinite set of social individuals are also directly social forms of activity. Consequently the activity of individual A must also be extended to the limits of this universality. The relationship of the nature

of the activity of individual A to the nature of the activity of individual B is that elementary and, at the same time, that most general form in which their activity may reveal its kinship to this universality. Thus the activity of individual A correlates with the activity of individual B not because these individuals cannot express their social significance apart from these relations, but because this significance of theirs is bounded at each given moment by limits of space and time, which grow wider when the material activity of the other individual is included in the relationship. But A and B do not exhaust all forms of activity. Therefore the relationship between A and B must expand its boundaries, and depending on place and time, in each situation it adopts the form of a system which undergoes continual development and enrichment.

Thus the contradiction inherent to direct social relations is that the material activity of individuals makes up concretely universal activity existing as a special form of activity. But insofar as this is the activity of a concrete individual, it is bounded in time and in space, and therefore it has to be realized through other forms of concretely universal activity. This realization is achieved when the individual effects exchange of his activity, interpreted as a means of direct reproduction of the society's social structure.

It is on this basis that the contradiction of direct social relations develops. This contradiction is brought into being by the dynamics of the inner structure of these relations, which are determined by the structure of the social demand which causes relations of mutual communication to arise between individuals. These dynamics are responsible not only for the continual appearance of new forms of material productive activity, but also for the need each individual acquires for assimilating these forms, within the limits of his possibilities. Only in this case can normal communication proceed between individuals. The contradiction is precisely that every new demand and every new form of activity compel individuals to assimilate the new form, causing the previously evolved structure to change.

Thus within the framework of direct social relationships per se, a contradiction arises and develops between socially determined vital activities of the individual and the concrete, unilateral form of these activities. Within the framework of what manifests itself in the socialist stage, a contradiction persists between labor as a means of survival--that is, as a relatively independent and isolated form of activity--and the socially determined vital activity of the individual. Labor viewed as an economic relationship is still somewhat contradictory to vital activity; owing to this, the latter is realized as universal activity by way of its unique and relatively independent, isolated existence. The abstract and the concrete essentially maintain their switched roles, such that the concretely singular appears as something abstractly universal. As a result, the real subject of production is not the active individual but labor juxtaposed with the latter within certain limits.

Owing to this, first of all direct labor retains its significance to each member of the society as a means of survival, and to society as the main factor responsible for creation of living conditions; second, social

differences in labor persist, and because different members of the society are socially responsible for different aspects of labor, inequality in the material status of members of the society manifests itself as a consequence; third, each member of the society continues to act to a significant degree as a direct agent of the production process; fourth, demands directly determined by production of material wealth retain their dominant significance within the system of social demands; fifth, distribution of the resources of production, and particularly of labor resources, and control of the yardsticks of labor and consumption are the dominant functions of the society's control over its own life. This predetermines the boundaries of conscious formation of the demands of the society's members, the nature of these demands, and the actual planning of social production. Consequently it also predetermines the immanent form which this planning activity practically takes--national economic planning.

What is the relationship of these factors to direct social relations? Being the internal, substantial genetic basis of the whole social organism, direct social relations already exist and function within it, and they determine the nature and direction of all movement. But these relations also exist in specific forms typical of their first level of maturity. Their direct material bearer is the individual, existing as a concrete socially defined worker, a laborer, one who is still socially constrained within certain limits to some single form of labor. To the individual, they remain significant predominantly as a means of survival, though they gradually transform into a direct component of his vital activities.

In the socialist stage, direct social relations are relations realized in the course of labor as the conditions providing for creation of material blessings that are consumed by members of the society in the form of a reward for labor. Realizing themselves through labor, they determine the directly social nature of labor. What makes labor directly social? It is directly social chiefly because the labor relationships between individuals are regulated and controlled by the society. They are materially supported by the society, and rewarded by it. Existing as a concentrated, integral expression of the interests and goals of individuals, socialist society thus exists not just as the starting point and the end point of all labor of individuals, but also as its dominant factor.

FOOTNOTES

1. Marks, K. and Engels, F., "Soch." [Works], Vol 46, Part I, p 105.
2. It would be pertinent to recall in this connection that in his characterization of the essence of Marxist methodology, Lenin noted that "analysis reveals, in this extremely simple phenomenon (in this 'cell' of bourgeois society), all of the contradictions (the respective embryos of all contradictions) of modern society. The subsequent text reveals to us the development (both the growth and the movement) of these contradictions and this society, as the sum of its individual parts, from its beginning and to its end" (Lenin, V. I., "Poln. sobr. soch." [Complete Collected Works], Vol 29, p 318).

3. Marks, K. and Engels, F., "Soch.," Vol 46, Part I, p 115.

4. Marks, K. and Engels, F., "Soch.," Vol 46, Part II, p 110.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

RESULTS OF EAST-WEST SOCIAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE VIEWED

Moscow OBRSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 194-198

[Article by Doctor of Historical Sciences L. Kyuzadznyan, Institute of Scientific Information in the Social Sciences of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "All-European Meeting of Specialists in the Social Sciences"]

[Text] "East-West Cooperation in the Social Sciences": A conference on this theme was conducted in the Austrian city of Burg Shlyayning (transliteration) in May 1986 on the initiative of the European Center for Coordination of Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (the Vienna Center), with the participation of the Austrian Institute for Research on Problems of Peace and with the support of UNESCO and the International Social Science Council. Around 40 scientists--historians, economists, political scientists and sociologists from 7 socialist countries (Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Poland, USSR, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia) and 12 capitalist countries (Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Greece, Denmark, Spain, Norway, USA, West Germany, Finland, France, Sweden)--took part in the meeting, which was dedicated to the International Year of Peace.

The conference was opened by Vienna Center President P. Feldheim. He emphasized that strengthening cooperation between Eastern and Western social scientists would promote fulfillment of the provisions of the Helsinki Conference Final Act, inasmuch as the social sciences can and should play an important role in providing information to persons responsible for political decisions. International scientific cooperation in the social sciences is having a favorable influence both on the progress of these sciences as a whole, and on their development in each country.

The Vienna Center, which has been in existence for more than 20 years (1), is striving to make its contribution to achieving the best mutual understanding between scientists of East and West Europe. A number of the center's projects on which scientists of different countries have worked productively may be named: "Automation and Industrial Robots," "Models of Consumption in European Countries," "Directions and Trends of Cultural Development in Modern Society" and others.

Two projects being carried on under the auspices of the Vienna Center today are a direct contribution to practical implementation of the provisions of the Final Act by the European scientific community, and particularly those pertaining to exchange of information and documentation: "European Cooperation in Social Science Information and Documentation (ECSSID)" and "Semiotics." The latter is to contain a multilingual glossary of terms found in the Final Act.

The goal of this conference, Feldheim said in conclusion, "is to give a new push to international research in the social sciences, and to determine the priority directions of this research from the standpoint of what would most promote achievement of better mutual understanding between nations and countries belonging to different socioeconomic systems.

The conference participants were unanimous in the conclusions that the present situation in the world is intensifying the need for seeking ways to achieve mutual understanding and cooperation, and that social scientists must facilitate this process. The common understanding that nuclear war is impermissible, that it can have no winners, and that therefore the policy of total antagonism and military confrontation has no future is a prerequisite of joint effort.

We could hardly strengthen international security unless the accumulated mistrust which eats at the fabric of international relations could be dispelled. There is an obvious need for new approaches, for a new way of political thinking which would facilitate realistic appraisal both of the factors responsible for the dangerous development of the international situation and of the forces and processes capable of playing a positive role in improving the situation. The significance of theoretical research to finding the paths to a better, more peaceful world, to surmounting the evolved stereotypes of thinking based on mistrust, and to forming new approaches to political practice cannot be overstated.

International scientific cooperation, which includes information exchange and organization of joint research, is an important resource by which to steer political practice toward the fundamental objectives of retarding the arms race and resolving regional conflicts and contradictions on a global scale having to do with ecology, raw materials and so on.

The different reports revealed that hundreds of scientific centers in different countries are studying international problems. Scientists of socialist countries informed their colleagues that they have written programs for integrated research on the problems of peace and disarmament. There are plans to create the following works on a multilateral basis: "Prevention of World Thermonuclear War: The Approaches of Socialist States," "Socioeconomic Factors of Development," "Ways of Solving Pressing Problems of Security and Cooperation in Europe," "The Problem of Peace and Security in Asia," "Influence of the Threat of Nuclear Catastrophe on Modern Man."

As far as cooperation among scientists from countries with different social systems in research on the problems of peace is concerned, it is limited today to exchange of specialists, sporadic publications and debates (sometimes

rather acute) at international scientific forums. Cooperation of the sort which came into being between the Institute of Scientific Information in the Social Sciences of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Institute for Research on the Problems of Peace in Tampere, Finland (2) has not yet become a widespread phenomenon. According to available information there is only one joint research project on the problems of peace going on today. Its topic is "The Policy of Security--A Safe Partnership," and it is being carried out by scientists of the East German Institute of International Politics and Economics and the Institute for Research on the Problems of Peace and the Policy of Security at Hamburg University.

The importance of widening the sphere and multiplying the forms of cooperation between Eastern and Western scientists was pointed out at the conference. Symposiums, specialized debates and joint research, publishing efforts and educational work of scientists would doubtlessly enrich these scientists with new ideas and analytical methods. Inasmuch as we are talking about countries with different social structures and different political and scientific traditions, and about interaction between scientists differing in their views and utilizing different conceptual apparatus, we cannot expect total unanimity. But there is a real hope for bringing the positions closer together. If they could jointly develop scientific recommendations on ways to relax tension without ignoring differences in approaches, they could bring doubtless benefit and earn the recognition of the broad public.

The speakers made an appeal to devote greater attention to general methodological problems pertaining to the social sciences, which would help raise the level of analysis of important current problems, and to widening contacts with specialists in the natural and technical sciences, so that problems which scientific-technical progress might pose before the world community could be foreseen.

Concrete proposals on topics of joint research were suggested in a number of the speeches. In the opinion of Academician V. Vinogradov (USSR), in particular the Vienna Center might concentrate the efforts of Eastern and Western political scientists on studying the approaches to a just political solution of international crises and regional conflicts. It would be desirable to orient contacts between economists on discussing the problems of economic cooperation in Europe as a factor promoting greater trust, and on studying Europe's role in establishment of a new world economic order which would guarantee equal possibilities and equal economic security of all states. Comparative research on the exercise of the individual's political, social and personal rights would be of doubtless interest to sociologists. The mutual relationship between disarmament and development is a complex topic, one requiring summation of the international efforts of economists, sociologists and political scientists.

The point of view of Western scientists on the prospects of all-European cooperation of social scientists was reflected in the speech by E.-O. Chempil (FRG). In his opinion the time has come to create a European association for international research which could become the institutional organ for interaction between social scientists of different countries of the continent. Broad exchange of scientific materials, conduct of comparative research and

debates on the most pressing problems of modern times could be organized within the framework of this organization. In particular it would be useful to trace the role of trade in smoothing out conflict situations, and to answer the question as to whether widening of commercial ties between the East and West is the result of detente or, on the other hand, whether detente followed activation of trade relations. The relations between the EEC and CEMA, the conception of most favored nation in application to East-West trade relations and its role in reducing tension in Europe require thorough examination.

Other problems mentioned as being of interest to Western social scientists were: How is the nature of international relations changing in response to the effects of mass communication resources? How have our ideas about sovereignty, independence and the domestic policy of states changed under their influence? How are the accomplishments of scientific-technical progress in electronic data processing being reflected in international policy? What is the influence of growing international terrorism on our traditional understanding of the system of international relations? And finally, if cooperation between social scientists of the countries of East and West Europe in research on international relations were to experience development, what influence would such cooperation have on the relations of European states between each other, with the USSR and with the USA?

Three sections were organized at the conference: "International Relations," "Economic Problems" and "Social Problems." The range of problems to which conference participants attach special significance was determined at section meetings.

Such problems in international relations are: integrating factors in international politics; resolution of international crises and regional conflicts without the use of force (systems and comparative analysis); the role of nongovernmental organizations in East-West cooperation; different political cultures and their significance in conflict situations; the role of developing countries in world politics.

In economics: reorganization of international economic relations (a new economic order); economic security (as a key issue of international security in addition to military and political guarantees); international debt and economic development, and the economic prerequisite of, and the influence of technological processes on, solving the problems of hunger in the world; small and medium-sized businesses in developed societies and their contribution to social and economic progress; social rights, welfare problems and political decisions; high technology--its social and economic influence; factors affecting development of self-supporting research communities.

In social problems: social and psychological aspects of preserving peace; the influence of new technologies on social changes; study of the problem of women; human rights and comparative constitutional law, and comparisons in living conditions.

Recommendations of the conference foresee: conducting regular East-West scientific conferences under the auspices of the Vienna Center with the goal of appraising current progress and attracting attention to the priority areas

of research, so as to promote better mutual understanding between countries with different socioeconomic systems. Suggestions were made for conducting joint research projects in cases where a need for more information is sensed, so that the social sciences would be in a position to solve effectively the problems of society as a result of more precise definition of their objectives. Recommendations were made to concentrate attention on global, regional and subregional economic problems affecting harmonious international relations between countries with different socioeconomic systems. Plans were made to strengthen the role of international comparative research in the study of national problems, and to organize more aggressive information exchanges, and to include translation of documents and books into languages understood by present and potential partners of joint scientific initiatives.

The conference participants expressed their wish to create a data base on European social scientists in Vienna jointly with professional associations, and to improve communication between the data bases of East and West Europe, so as to form effective specialized scientific networks.

FOOTNOTES

1. For more detail on activities of the Vienna Center, see OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI, No 4, 1980, pp 166-173.--Editor's note.
2. The collection "Issledovaniye problem mira v sovetskoy i finskoy nauchnoy literature" [Investigation of the Problems of Peace in Soviet and Finnish Scientific Literature] was published in Moscow in 1983, and in Tampere in 1983 in English, as a result of cooperation between the two institutes.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

LANGUAGE, HEALTH PROBLEMS DESCRIBED IN TASHKENT DRAFT

PM151135 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 3

[Special correspondent V. Shcherban article: "Fall Draft, or What Our Correspondent Saw at Tashkent Assembly Point"]

[Text] Tashkent--The fall is the time for new recruits. Guys come to city assembly points "with spoon, mug, and summons to the army." Aged between 18 and 27. With hair cut short. And accompanied by girls, friends, parents, and relatives. And they kiss, sing, dance, and sigh.... And after all this there is the existing and unknown army, like a different world.

...Draft into the armed forces. There is no denying that this is a moving event. A landmark in our life. For it is no coincidence that, having done our service, we divided our life up into "before" and "after the army." But we cannot hide the fact that we are accustomed to seeing the festive aspect of sendoffs, as though reflected in the shiny brass of bands. But there is also the reverse side of the coin, which everyone delicately overlooks.

The doors opened at 0900 hours. And they entered. Through a sieve of some 10 doctors. Into this room, where the members of the draft board were seated. They stepped onto a small dais, as though onto a pedestal. And they began their report: Who they were, where they were from. An artless monologue of some 20 words. But you learn so much. I leafed through the draftees' Personal files. And I became increasingly convinced that I must speak about this....

Questions of the draft have been arousing certain concern in recent years. The number of young people whose files are set aside on the "unfit" pile after the medical boards is not diminishing. There are now more "four-eyes" and people with ulcers, nerves, diseases of the liver, the kidneys.... Psychiatrists and experts in drug addiction have been included on the medical board. But what can you do?! Things are reaching the point where such an apparently macho region as Siberia, which from time immemorial has been considered a realm of healthy people, has begun sometimes producing puny people. The Transbaykal region and the Urals have their own problems.

Another draftee stood in the center of the room. I looked in his "dossier." He had had 10 years' schooling. The doctors' conclusion was "fit."

"Why don't you speak? Report..."--I heard one of the board members say.

They reply was a guilty smile.

"This one is from the backwoods," Lieutenant Colonel V. Fiterer, chief of the oblast assembly point, explained to me. And he pointed out a banner to the guy: "Service in the Armed Forces Is an Honorable Duty!"

"Read it!"

The draftee read it with difficulty.

"In which troops do you want to serve?"--the lieutenant colonel could not contain himself.

They translated. He shrugged his shoulders.

"Will you go into the infantry?"--the officer continued.

"No-o-o," the guy began to shake his head.

"So where do you want to go?"

The draftee stayed silent.

Fiterer sighed and wrote in a bold hand on the personal file: "To a construction battalion."

Because of poor knowledge of Russian, many draftees from Uzbekistan are sent to noncombatant units. This problem is the talk of the town. Everything can be explained easily: There are not enough Russian language teachers in the republic. But Colonel A. Rubeko, chief of the republic military commissariat political department, provided a fuller answer.

"We have toured many Uzbek oblasts. It came to light that lessons in elementary military training are conducted in Uzbek. Even the Russian language is taught in Uzbek."

"No, no, you must not think that these facts are typical," rayon public education department workers tried to persuade me. And they started to pull plans for measures out of fat document cases. And they talked and talked....

But why then is the percentage of draftees with poor knowledge of Russian hardly changing? And why are there still more of them in the present draft? And who can give a guarantee that graduates of teacher training schools will readily go to the backwoods in the future? That a language environment will at last be created in schools? There is no such guarantee. This is why schools have been created in a number of places in the republic to prepare boys to enter military schools. Literally in a year kids start speaking

Russian well and become stronger. As a result, many guys from Uzbekistan now serve not only in a construction battalion but also in combat units. But they are chiefly from the cities. And yet the republic has tremendous human resources. It frequently helps out other regions with manpower. But it is a question not just of the quantity but also of the quality of draftee training.

...A break was announced. We decided to take a rest from the hum of voices and the glimpses of naked bodies. But no sooner had we gone out into the corridor than our plans changed. The telephone seemed it would smash itself to smithereens if the handset was not picked up at once. They were ringing from the sport society. They asked for an appeal to be passed on from a group of hockey players: "The team will be finished without them..." They also interceded for a footballer who "could become a star in the future...."

"We have recently had to remind petitioners increasingly frequently that service in the army is obligatory for everyone," Colonel U. Muminov, the republic's military commissar, told me. "Leferments have been abolished even for students. We only release people because of family circumstances and for health reasons...."

We had sat for 5 hours. During that time many hundreds of strong, muscular guys had passed before us. Some of them could have straightened horseshoes. And against that background it was somehow uncomfortable to see kids who had run to fat as a result of overeating, with drooping bellies and arms as this as buttercup stalks....

A new "cadre" mounted the pedestal. The wooden box even started to crack beneath him. The guy looked as though he weighed about 100 kg!

"Look," my interlocutor showed me his personal file. "He has the 'Ready for Work and Defense of the USSR' [GTO] badge!" And he smiled. "But I think that is only on paper. Now you will see for yourself."

"You," he indicated the three guys standing closest to us. And he ordered:

"Outside, to the horizontal bar!"

...Three future soldiers swung on the horizontal bar. Three holders of the GTO gold badge. I was told that on checking GTO badge holders it turns out that many draftees do not fulfill the normatives of the complex.

"But I think this will come to an end. Don't you believe me?" the officer asked. "As of this year, the work of physical culture and sports committees will be assessed not on the scale of trained champions but on the standard of physical training of young people of draft age."

I am saying more about the chairman. As though he alone were on the board. But what of the others? "Komsomol" stayed silent. Although there were questions on which he should have intervened. Many draftees go off into the army without even having paid their Komsomol dues.

According to the regulations, there should also have been a deputy chief of the rayon public education department on the board. But they sent an employee...from the garage.

Again they sat at the tables. And the neuropathologist at once produced a surprise: He "vetoed" two guys because of heart murmurs. They stood before us: tall-getting on for 190 cm. Ungainly, hanging their heads. Their files were set aside.

"After the 'attachment board,' lists of all in need of treatment are forwarded to the medical centers near where the guys live," Major A. Kurbanov, chief of the assembly point's medical department, explained the situation. "And then the young man himself does not apply [for treatment], everything's fine. That is why there are far more guys fit for service at 14 than at 17...."

The last to appear were so-called "dead souls"--several students. Strong, healthy kids. Their schoolmates have been serving a long time. But these are still in civilian life. Why? They have simply been forgotten about. The military registration organs of certain institutes make omissions. Sometimes, after all students have been called up, it turns out that there are still one or two hundred who have not been taken into account.

On that day 10 guys had not appeared in answer to the summons. We were faced with nightwork. A vehicle was driven up, and we went to the addresses....

We guessed from afar which was the draftee's house. The yard was brightly lit, and music was playing. Young people were dancing. It was a sendoff party. Guys with faces the color of late tomatoes were standing at the gate. An elder came out to meet us.

"I am sending my son off to the army. But not all our relatives have arrived yet," he explained.

We nevertheless managed to find the majority of those who had not turned up. However, there are also ones who cannot be found even with the militia's help....

The new recruits were sent off early in the morning. There was singing, kissing, and dancing on the platform. There was a smell of cookies and melons. And suddenly above all this came the announcement:

"Into the train..."

The kids put themselves in order, and their eyes took on a steely gleam. They became more stern. As befits the eyes of people joining the great soldierly fraternity.

[Following paragraph is IZVESTIYA editorial postscript]

From the editors: At first glance you might think: Is this article not laying it on a bit thick? But, as practice testifies, the majority of the problems raised are also topical for other regions of the country. And so it is necessary to interpret these problems and take effective measures to overcome them. How are they to be solved? We believe that the answers to these questions should be sought by local soviet organs, the Komsomol, schools, and military commissariats together. By all who directly prepare young people for service in the armed forces. Purposeful and constant work is needed. And it must not be postponed. We are talking of the motherland's defenders.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

BSSR: EXPERIMENTAL CARE PROGRAM FOR ELDERLY, INVALIDS

[Editorial Report] Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian on 3 December 1986 carries on page 2 an 1800-word report by D. Manaeva on a new "social experiment" in Belorussia. As part of the experiment, social workers--usually young women--go into the home of elderly or infirm people to assist them with household chores and shopping or simply to provide companionship. Manaeva's article includes an interview with A.V. Lyutsko, a representative of the Ministry of Social Security. The goal of the program is "to improve the position of lonely disabled citizens, to create for them more comfortable living conditions with regard to their age, and to allow the possibility of choice in their own futures." Lyutsko states that a list was prepared of 34,000 elderly or lonely people who were unable to care for themselves and had no relatives in the area. Of these, 8,000 were deemed particularly needy. The ministry hopes to have all 8,000 involved in the program by the end of the current 5-year plan. Similar programs have also been introduced in the RFSFR, the Baltic republics and the Ukraine, according to Lyutsko.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

UZBEK LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANS EXAMINE ANTINARCOTICS EFFORTS

[Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 30 November 1986 carries on page 3 a 250-word report on a coordinated meeting of the law enforcement organs of Uzbekistan concerning further efforts in the struggle against drug addiction. Participants looked at the work being done in Tashkent Oblast. It was noted that prosecutors, militia, and the courts were strengthening activities in warning against cultivation of crops with narcotic properties and prevention of drug-related crime. It was also noted that there were still shortcomings in connection with these efforts. In some cities and rayons on the oblast there has not been the necessary coordination of law enforcement organs, local peoples' deputies, komsomol and trade union organizations, health organs, and the Gosagroprom. Preventive work is weak in labor collectives, educational institutions, and residences. It was decided to make greater use of law enforcement organs in the Karakalpak ASSR in crop eradication and to increase the responsibility of local Soviets and heads of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in these efforts.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

BRIEFS

CONFERENCE ON PEACE, YOUTH--An international scientific-practical conference held in Tbilisi in June 1986 was devoted to the topic "Peace and Youth." Its participants--representatives of scientific centers studying youth problems and of youth organizations of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, GDR, Cuba, Laos, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, USSR and Czechoslovakia--discussed problems concerned with indoctrination of the growing generation in the spirit of world and proletarian internationalism, with propagandizing the socialist way of life, with the participation of young people in implementation of the scientific-technical programs of CEMA countries, and with encouraging young people to contribute to the antiwar movement. [Text] [Moscow OBNCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) p 200] [COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Nauka", "Obshchestvennyye nauki", 1986] 11004

ETHNICITY CONFERENCE--A conference titled "Ethnic Processes in the Modern World" was conducted in June 1986 in Tallinn under the auspices of the European Center for Coordination of Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences (the Vienna Center). Scientists of Belgium, Great Britain, Romania, GDR, West Berlin, Norway, Poland, USSR, USA, Sweden and Yugoslavia as well as representatives of the Vienna Center heard over 20 reports. Soviet researchers gave the following reports: "Principal Forms of Ethnic Communities" (Academician Yu. Bromley), "Ethnic Identification in Light of Historical Cross-Cultural Situational Psychology" (I. Kon), "Cultural Dynamics and National Self-Awareness of Peoples of the USSR" (L. Drobizheva), "Internationalization of the Way of Life in the Conditions of Large Cities on the Basis of Materials from the Estonian SSR" (Estonian SSR Academy of Sciences Academician Yu. Kakhk and E. Rannik), "Ethnic Aspects of the Development of the Arts in the Culture of Soviet Estonia" (E. Yansen and M. Lauristin), "Microethnic Groups in the USSR" (L. Gurvich), "Common Ethnoconfessional Characteristics on Three Continents" (L. Kuzmina). [Text] [Moscow OBNCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) pp 200-201] [COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Nauka", "Obshchestvennyye nauki", 1986] 11004

METHODOLOGY, IDEOLOGY SEMINARS--The Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars under the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences conducted an all-union scientific-practical conference titled "The Ideological Struggle in Problems of Science, Scientific-Technical Progress and the Social Responsibility of Scientists" (Moscow, May 1986). Over 200 researchers took

part in it. Over 100 scientific communications grouped in the following subjects were given and discussed in six section meetings: "Methodological Problems of the Ideological Struggle"; "Methodology and Practice of Ideological Indoctrination in the Scientific Collective in the Conditions of Aggravation of the Ideological Struggle"; "Methodological Problems of Accelerating Scientific-Technical Progress"; "The Ideological Struggle in the Humanitarian and Social Sciences"; "Scientific Creativity: The Struggle of Ideas"; "Criticism of Bourgeois Conceptions of the Development of Modern Scientific Knowledge, Scientific Creativity and the Scientist's Social Responsibility." [Text] [Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) p 202] [COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Nauka", "Obshchestvennyye nauki", 1986] 11004

PHILOSOPHY SEMINAR ON COMPUTERS--A symposium titled "Philosophical and Methodological Problems of the Computerization of Science" was held in Obninsk in June 1986 on the initiative of the Central Council of Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars under the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The Philosophy Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences helped to organize the meeting, for which around 100 philosophers, mathematicians and specialists in information science and computer technology convened. Different aspects of scientific activities associated with development of computer technology were discussed, to include software, development of the elemental base, programming, mathematical modeling, machine language, man-computer communication, use of computer technology in scientific research in mathematics, physics, biology, economics and management, and others. [Text] [Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) p 203] [COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Nauka", "Obshchestvennyye nauki", 1986] 11004

MORE SOCIOLOGICAL SERVICES NEEDED--The USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the AUCCTU adopted a decree on improving the organization of sociological work in the sectors of the national economy with the consent of the USSR Gosplan, and they approved the "Standard Principles of the Enterprise, Organization and Ministry Social Development Service." It was recommended to the ministries and departments that they create social development services both in the central administration and in sector (departmental) scientific research institutions, in scientific-production associations, and in enterprises and organizations. The purpose of the services is to solve the problems of stabilizing labor collectives, tightening discipline, developing the sociopolitical activity of laborers, raising the effectiveness of socialist competition and improving labor organization and stimulation. [Text] [Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 86 (signed to press 13 Oct 86) p 203] [COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Nauka", "Obshchestvennyye nauki", 1986] 11004

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REGIONAL ISSUES

ECOLOGICALLY SOUND PRODUCTION METHODS URGED

Kishinev KOMMUNIST MOLDAVII in Russian No 10, Oct 86 pp 55-61

[Article by I. Pelinskiy, junior scientific associate of the Moldavian SSR Academy of Sciences under "Platform for the Young Scientist" rubric: "The Ecological Aspects of Production Intensification"]

[Text] As is well known, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the intensification of the economy comprise the current strategy of the party's economic policy and the basis for the acceleration of the country's socio-economic development. Scientific and technical progress is complex and multi-faceted, and, as the 27th party congress emphasized, it "exerts an enormous influence on all the processes taking place in the world, as well as on its conflicts." [1] Therefore, the non-comprehensive, non-systematic utilization of its achievements leads to a number of negative consequences, specifically to unfavorable effects on the natural environment and to the exacerbation of the conflicts between society and nature. The "formation and development of the ecological problem" as one of the global problems of our time is related to the non-rational intensification of production and the tendency to become carried away with intensive factors taken individually; all three aspects of this problem--environmental pollution, the exhaustion of natural resources and the disturbance of the ecological balance--are extremely relevant to the situation in Moldavia.

Our republic has an acute problem of environmental pollution, the most harmful sources of which are effluent from the food, wine-making, meat and dairy industries, from light industry and from housing; exhaust gases from motor vehicles and emissions from power installations. [2] At the same time the enterprises in these sectors are still devoting an intolerably small amount of attention to reducing the volume of untreated waste water. And we have been slow in changing over to the use of fuel gas at power installations. There are reductions and then new boiler houses appear once again; they consume resources irrationally and, even worse, they pollute the air badly. Not all standards are being met in the area of motor vehicle maintenance work; this applies especially to the ministries of automotive transportation and the building materials industry.

Agricultural production is also a source of environmental pollution. For example, the increasing use of chemicals for land cultivation, while providing substantial increases in crop yields, at the same time leads as well to undesirable consequences. The soil becomes polluted, and the quality of the harvest falls. According to available data, up to 25 percent of the nitrogen fertilizers, 33 percent of the potassium fertilizers and 4 percent of the phosphorus fertilizers are washed away from the fields and run off into various bodies of water. [3] A mandatory procedure has not yet been established for the storage of fertilizers; the necessary number of permanent places for the preparation of process solutions is lacking, and many of those which do exist do not meet sanitary-engineering requirements. [4] Hence the wasteful and by no means environmentally harmless "leak" of chemicals. At the present time Moldavia uses more toxic chemicals than any other union republic; consequently environmental pollution caused by chemically-active substances is one of its most serious problems.

Nearly 20 percent of the volume of untreated agricultural water in our republic consists of run-off from livestock complexes, and in terms of its chemical composition it is among the most polluted. The discharge of this waste water leads to the massive death of fish and other hydro-bions and causes considerable economic damage.

Nor is everything satisfactory in Moldavia with regard to other aspects of the ecological problem. For example, the questions of how to maintain and increase soil fertility, how to increase the woodlands and raise the quality of forests and how to use water resources economically require greater attention. As for the latter, the question is made more acute by the limited nature of water resources. Moreover, more than half of the water expended in production is still utilized only once. And here (as in the prevention of environmental pollution), the widespread introduction of water saving technologies which specify the circulation of water within a closed system, as well as waste-free technologies, are called upon to play a larger role.

The maintenance of ecological equilibrium in natural systems as well as the maintenance of stability in agro-cenoses are also essential tasks. Here life has presented us with a whole series of problems, the seriousness of which is undoubtedly clear to all...

Thus, today's ecological contradictions are, as a rule, the consequence of incomplete, non-rational and non-systematic intensification and "it is precisely the transition to intensification in the form in which it now dominates in social production which has led to the appearance of mankind's ecological problems. For this reason it is essential to have that kind of change in the forms and directions of production which could resolve this conflict for the long-term future." [5]

The improvement in the intensification of our country's economy which is taking place at the present time presupposes the development of social production on the basis of qualitatively new factors, which are called on to ensure the rational expenditure of various resources used in the process of

labor, in addition to the well-being of the natural environment. The CPSU now views questions of ecological policy as inextricably linked to the qualitative transformation of the country's economy. "There was a time," it was noted at the third session of the 11th USSR Supreme Soviet, "when the main task was to ensure the scale of production, to create the essential material base for production. This stage has passed.

Today the party is setting new tasks. New, not only in terms of their purposes, but also in terms of their nature.

The discussion concerns the planned and persistent re-organization of production in all branches of the economy into qualitatively new technological processes which make it possible not only to utilize resources economically but also to reduce environmental pollution to a minimum."

The party is unwavering and consistent in its aspirations, including that which concerns the protection of the environment. "Scientific and technical progress," it says in the new edition of the CPSU Program, "must be aimed at radical improvement in the utilization of natural resources, raw materials, secondary materials, fuel and energy at all stages from extraction and the comprehensive processing of raw materials to the output and utilization of end production." The need to raise the effectiveness of measures to protect nature, and to instill in the Soviet people a feeling of great responsibility for the preservation and augmentation of natural resources and their careful utilization, as well as the importance of improving the management of natural protection work in our country are reflected in the "Basic Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period up to the Year 2000."

In short, the reason for the sharp conflicts between nature and society lies not in intensification itself but in the deficiencies of its forms, in the inadequate degree to which it is developed and in its one-sidedness. Harmful discharges and emissions are a manifestation of technological incompleteness, as well as indicators of bad management, carelessness, inertia of thought, and irresponsible behavior. The time has come for new approaches to the work, approaches which are designed to accelerate our progress toward a complete and all-around intensification of the economy which is based on closed-system, waste-free production. This is the only type of technology which makes it possible to simultaneously preserve all resources because virtually all of the initial raw material is used in a comprehensive manner to obtain the end product, reducing production wastes to a minimum. This kind of production will become the most important basis for the resolution of the existing ecological conflicts. In the first place, the problem of waste will disappear, and with it the risk of environmental pollution. In the second place, the comprehensive utilization of the original raw material will inevitably reduce the level of its consumption and will provide an opportunity to reduce the technogenic transformation of natural landscapes during the extraction of minerals. In the third place, the comprehensive intensification of the economy will increase the output of the required production not through

an increase in the number of enterprises, each of which is a source of anthropogenic influence on the natural environment, but rather through the qualitative renovation and improvement of those enterprises.

A striking example of comprehensive intensification of production is the successful industrial introduction of waste-free technology for the processing of the gold-containing ores of Murun-Tau, which are the basis for the operation of an enterprise in the Kyzylkum Desert. [6] Labor productivity at this enterprise is four times greater than at advanced gold-producing enterprises of the Republic of South Africa, while the water expenditure per ton of ore being processed is one-half to one-third less; there is virtually no discharge of waste water into the open drainage system. That is, it is precisely the comprehensive intensification of this production unit--based on the provision of new and better equipment and consideration for the latest achievements of scientific-technical progress--which has made it possible to sharply improve its ecological parameters.

In our republic the Tiraspolskiy Cotton Production Association can serve as an example: it is the largest light industry enterprise in Moldavia. Here they are making the transition to new pigments, which--in contrast to those previously used--will make it possible to eliminate the process of washing the fabric after dying. In turn, this will lead to a significant reduction in the volume of waste water and will make that water easier to clean. At the same time, the reduction in the length of the production cycle, as a consequence of eliminating an unnecessary operation, will inevitably lead to an increase in labor productivity and to an increase in the volume of output.

Thus, we see that the optimization of the interaction between society and the biosphere and the maximum accommodation of enterprises to the natural environment are possible only when the path of complete, all-around intensification is followed.

In the opinion of Academician S.S. Shvarts, harmony in the development of a socio-natural system can be achieved by work "a) to reduce to a minimum the direct, harmful consequences of industrial pressure on nature and b) to develop a system of measures to provide an opportunity for the normal functioning of the biosphere and its constituent bio-geocenoses under new conditions." [7] This may be realized through an integral system of the ecologicalization of society's activities; this system includes the following four strategic directions: the ecologicalization of production; ecological production, which must ensure the adaptation and adjustment of the environment to man through the formation of an eco-environment capable of sustaining high anthropogenic loads; ecological prognostication and monitoring; ecologicalization of consciousness and ecological education. Further, it is essential to note that in practice all four of the above-mentioned directions penetrate and complement each other; for this reason they can be separated from each other only in theory.

Let us consider the problem of the ecologicalization of production as the one most closely linked to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and to the fulfillment of the top-priority task set by the 27th CPSU

Congress: "to carry out a thorough technical reconstruction of the economy based on the latest achievements of science and technology." [8] The ecologicalization of production is today the most developed principle for the optimization of the interaction between society and nature and the most urgent direction for "easing" ecological conflicts. And, in turn, two basic aspects can be delineated here: the direct ecologicalization of the production process itself and the ecologicalization of the management of production.

The ecologicalization of the production process has as its goal the creation and introduction of low-waste and waste-free technologies, the comprehensive utilization of raw materials, as well as the operation of a production unit on the basis of closed systems of air and water consumption, which make it possible to economize water resources to the maximum and prevent the basic mass of pollutants contained in used air flows from entering the environment. The introduction of these technologies acquires particular significance in agro-industrial complexes, which are characterized by a very tense ecological situation, as is the case, for example, in our republic; this was emphasized by A.A. Zhuchenko, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, in a presentation to the 16th Congress of the Moldavian Communist Party. [9]

In the future one can see the production process shifting to the use of "smoke-stack free" and "airless" technologies, which almost completely eliminate the discharge of harmful substances into the biosphere. In this way the following conclusion suggests itself: the extensive ecologicalization of production is possible for a production unit which is being intensively developed only if there is continuous, high-quality renovation of it based on the utilization of the latest achievements of scientific and technical progress. For this reason the maximum possible acceleration of that progress becomes an essential precondition for the resolution of the ecological problem. In other words, the ecologicalization of production should be understood precisely as a qualitative re-organization of production with consideration for the ecological conditions which are required. Herein lies its difference from the common practice, in which a production unit is developed for the most part without qualitative ecological change in the latter, and its ecologicalization is considered to be only the growing utilization (at the very end of the production process) of treatment facilities. Their cost may reach 30 percent of the total cost of the enterprise and they may not ensure the necessary reduction in the negative effect of the production unit on the environment. The fundamental scientific-technical bases of low-waste and waste-free technologies have been developed for virtually all sectors of the country's economy, and it is now time to implement them.

However, in a majority of cases the organization of waste-free production within the framework of a single enterprise is a very complex matter and one which is difficult to carry out. The area-production complex must become the basis for waste-free technologies because it provides the framework in which it is possible to most fully utilize the wastes which are formed. In this way the problem of shifting production to low-waste and waste-free technologies is

an inter-sectorial one and its solution requires the creation of a qualitatively new mechanism for the introduction of scientific achievements on an inter-sectorial basis.

Another obstacle is the idea that waste-free production is unprofitable. The incorrectness of such a judgment was proven a long time ago. "The per unit capital investment for the creation of closed systems, local methods of treatment, low- and waste-free technological systems are less, as a rule, and they are returned more quickly than is the case when technological systems which lead to the formation of waste water and various unusable solid, liquid and gaseous wastes are used," emphasizes Academician B.N. Laskorin. [10]

An important role in the ecologicalization of production is to be played by biotechnology, which is very closely linked to natural processes and for this reason can be most fully accommodated in biospheric cycles. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted in August 1985 "On the Further Development of Biology and Biotechnology" calls for major measures to accelerate scientific and technical progress in this area.

A substantial part of the ecologicalization of production lies in the ecologicalization of its subjective factor--management. This means the addition of an ecological engineer to the staff of enterprises and associations, and if necessary, the creation of environmental protection departments. This also means as ecological training for students who are future engineering personnel, and the organization of courses for engineering-technical employees and managers of production units. And, finally, this means the inclusion of ecological indicators and measures in the socialist obligations and plan targets of all branches of the economy.

However, despite its own significance, the ecologicalization of production will not be able to completely resolve the ecological problem; it is only able to lessen its acuteness. A strategic direction such as ecological production, which is now being developed, is a means to neutralize the negative anthropogenic effect on nature, as well as a condition for the further existence and progressive evolution of the biosphere. [11] Further, in contrast with the ecologicalization of production, which technologically adapts processes to the natural environment, the adaptation of the environment to man is taking place; an environment is being formed which is capable of withstanding strong anthropogenic loads. The subject matter of ecological production is divided into the reproduction of already existing elements of the natural environment (which have suffered as a result of human actions) and the construction of new, previously non-existent ecological environments and systems which are best adapted to existing or required conditions. The global strategy of each of these directions is still being defined, but individual elements are already widely applied in public practice. They include for example, the afforestation of fallow areas, the restoration of the lost species diversity of animals and plants, anti-erosion measures, the irrigation of areas which have dried up as a result of human action, the reclamation of lands which have been harmed by man, etc.

The ecologicalization of the consciousness of the broad masses of the population is an extremely important aspect of this work. As already noted, this question has found reflection in the "Basic Directions in the Economic and Social Development" of the country for the coming fifteen-year period. It was frequently touched upon at the third session of the 11th USSR Supreme Soviet, where it was emphasized that "public organizations, labor collectives, schools, VUZ's and tekhnikums need to improve their work of instilling in all Soviet people a careful attitude toward the natural wealth of the country." Ecological education and the formation of an ecological worldview should also lessen the negative environmental impact of the non-production sphere of man's activities because in many cases the damage to biological communities is inflicted by the actions of individual people who disregard (often through ignorance) the vulnerability of nature, who unthinkingly spoil trees and bushes during recreational pursuits, who out of greed ruthlessly destroy medicinal grasses and flowers, and who conduct poaching operations on rivers, lakes and in forests. The mass information media, the Znaniye Society, the scientific societies and nature protection societies are called upon to play an important role in the ecological education of the public. At the present time, as is well known, this work is by no means carried out at the necessary level in all places or with that energy which the seriousness of the situation warrants.

The ecologicalization of consciousness includes an active, on-going process of the ecologicalization of science, the essence of which can be reduced to two basic aspects: a) drawing the various branches of science into the resolution of the ecological problem and b) introducing into the methodological armamentarium of each individual science certain standardized ecological knowledge, which must be taken into account when specific scientific investigations and scientific-technical projects are being carried out.

Speaking at the 27th party congress, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said in particular: "The task of protecting nature and making rational use of its resources arises before us in acute form. Socialism with its planned organization of production and humanistic worldview is capable of bringing harmony into the relations between society and nature. We are already implementing a system of measures toward this end; resources are being allocated, and they are substantial. And there are practical results.

"Nonetheless, in a number of regions the state of the natural environment provides a cause for alarm. Public opinion and our writers correctly raise the issue of a careful attitude toward the land and its resources, toward our lakes and rivers, and toward the plant and animal world." [12] Speaking further about the intolerably slow utilization of the achievements of scientific and technical progress in the area of environmental protection, about the inclusion of outdated technologies in plans for the construction and renovation of enterprises, about the unsatisfactory way in which waste-free and low-waste technologies are being introduced, M.S. Gorbachev emphasized: "More decisive measures of an economic, legal and educational nature are

essential here. All of us alive now must answer for nature before posterity and history." [13]

The concept of socio-economic acceleration, the re-organization taking place in the country, and the vast program of creation established in the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress provide a reliable guarantee of positive changes, including changes in the implementation of tasks in the area of ecology. And only in this case is it possible to have the genuine intensification of production, toward which our economy is now oriented.

The re-organization of the interaction between society and nature is an essential need, of which everyone must become aware.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Materialy XXVII syezda KPSS" [Materials of the 27th CPSU Congress]. Moscow, Politizdat, 1986, p 10.
2. "Small Rivers--Big Problems." SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA, 12 July 1985. "Strengthen Ecological Discipline." Ibid.
3. V. Melchanov, V. Bruk. "There Is No Need to Fertilize Bodies of Water." IZVESTIYA, 19 February 1985.
4. I. Kotyatsy, "Our Common Home." SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA, 5 June 1985.
5. A.A. Zhuchenko, A.D. Ursul. "Strategiya adaptivnoy intensifikatsii sel'skokozyaystvennogo proizvodstva" [A Strategy of Adaptive Intensification for Agricultural Production]. Kishinev, 1983, p 110.
6. B.N. Kaskorin. "The Creation of Technological Processes Which Eliminate the Harmful Effect of Industry on the Biosphere." VESTNIK AN SSSR, No 9, 1973.
7. S.S. Shvarts. "The Ecological Bases for the Protection of the Biosphere." Ibid.
8. "Materialy XXVII syezda KPSS" [Materials of the 27th CPSU Congress]. Moscow, Politizdat, 1986, p 102.
9. SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIA, 26 January 1986.
10. B.N. Laskorin. "The Role of Advanced Technology in the Protection of the Environment" in the book "Sotsialnyye aspekty ekologicheskikh problem" [Social Aspects of Ecological Problems]. Moscow, "Nauka", 1982, p 142.
11. Ye. T. Faddeyev. "The Problems of Ecological Production" in the book "Filosofskiye problemy globalnoy ekologii" [Philosophical Problems of Global Ecology]. Moscow, 1983.
12. "Materialy XXVII syezda KPSS" [Materials of the 27th CPSU Congress]. Moscow, Politizdat, 1986, p 50.
13. Ibid.

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